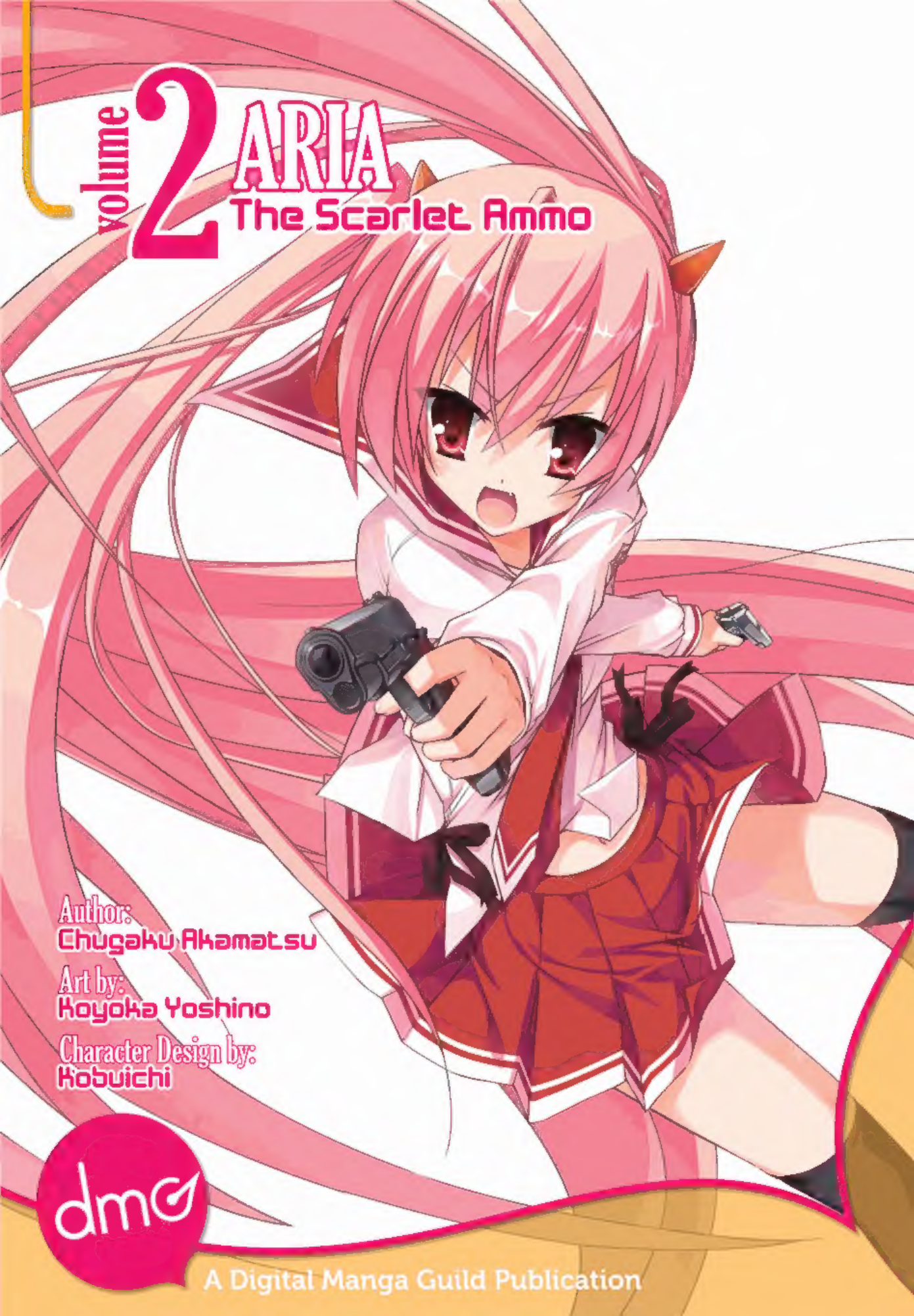
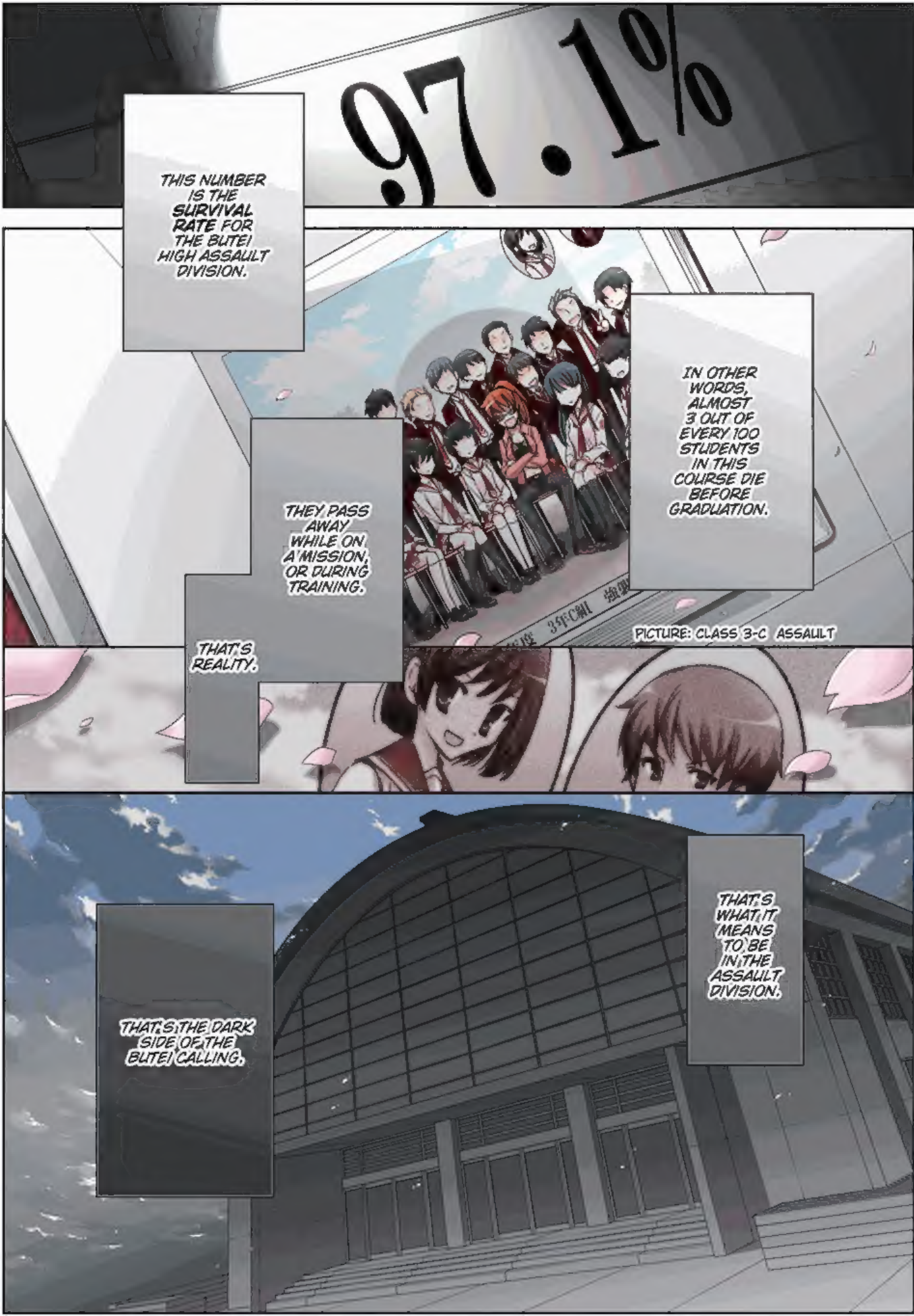

volume 2
ARIA
The Scarlet Ammo
Author:
Chugaku Akamatsu
Art by:
Koyoka Yoshino
Character Design by:
Kobuichi
dmg
A Digital Manga Guild Publication


97.1%
THIS NUMBER IS THE SURVIVAL RATE FOR THE BUTEI HIGH ASSAULT DIVISION.
IN OTHER WORDS, ALMOST 3 OUT OF EVERY 100 STUDENTS IN THIS COURSE DIE BEFORE GRADUATION.
THEY PASS AWAY WHILE ON A MISSION, OR DURING TRAINING.
THAT'S REALITY.
PICTURE: CLASS 3-C ASSAULT
THAT'S THE DARK SIDE OF THE BUTEI CALLING.
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE IN THE ASSAULT DIVISION.

緋弾のアリアII

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6弾・神崎・H・アリア
BULLET 6: ARIA H. KANZAKI
ONE DAY ...
A CUTE GIRL APPEARED BEFORE MY EYES.
KINJI!
IT'S TIME TO GET UP!
SHE BARGED INTO MY APARTMENT AND JUST STARTED LIVING THERE.
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES, THIS'D BE A DREAM COME TRUE.
ROLL
WE'RE GONNA BE LATE!
SHAKE
SHAKE
GET UP!
BUT ...

BASH
FWAP
GET UP!!
OOF!
KCHK
THIS IS BUTEI HIGH.
WH...
HIGH...
WHAT THE HELL?! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GET U--

AND THE GIRL IS A VIOLENT MANIAC WHO THREATENS TO SHOOT ME OVER EVERY LITTLE THING.
I'D SAY THAT REALLY RUINS THE "DREAM COME TRUE" PART.
*DRAMATIZATION
DAAAAM
DAAAAM
DAAAAM
DAAAAM
WHY YOU...
KCHK
HOW DARE YOU TALK BACK TO ME, SLAVE.
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE.
...
DASH
AH... HEY, WAIT!
TOHYAMA
...AH, CRAP, I'M GONNA MISS THE BUS!
CHK

I SHOULD MENTION THAT I--KINJI TOHYAMA--
AM JUST YOUR ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. USUALLY.
RRHHH
I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT GOING BACK!
NO! I WON'T LEAVE UNTIL YOU GO BACK TO ASSAULT CLASS!
MY LUCK RAN OUT THE MOMENT SHE ZEROED IN ON ME.
GRR
GRR
TMP
SHUT UP! GO BACK TO THE GIRLS' DORM!
ARIA H. KANZAKI,
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY LIKE YOU DID YESTERDAY!

GRRR
EEEE!
IF I WANT TO BE FREE FROM HER, THAT'S THE FIRST MYSTERY I'LL HAVE TO SOLVE.
WHY IS ARIA MAKING ME HER SLAVE?
IF SHE HAS A CLEAR REASON, THEN THE SOONER I TAKE IT AWAY, THE BETTER.
RIKO.
CHK
WHIRL

WAVE
WAVE
WAVE
STILL MODIFYING YOUR UNIFORM?
WHAT'S THIS ONE CALLED?
THIS IS THE BUTEI HIGH GIRLS' UNIFORM, WHITE LOLITA STYLE!
KII-KUUUUN!
...SHEESH, HOW MANY UNIFORMS DO YOU HAVE?
NO THANKS.
One, two, three, four
Hmm
TUNK
KII-KUN, HURRY UP AND LEARN THE DIFFERENT LOLITA FASHIONS ALREADY!
SWSH
RRRRRR
ROGER!
SWSH
TWIRL
OVER HERE, RIKO.
WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE IS A SECRET FROM ARIA. GOT THAT?
RIP
RIP
RIP
FWAP
Whoa
RIP

TOP TITLE: TALES OF ~:CUTS OFF:~
RIGHT TITLE: MY GOTH
LEFT TITLE: BLACK & WHITE
LA
LA
LA
LA
LA
LA
OH. MY. GAWWD!
"BLACK & WHITE!" AND "TALES OF THE WHITE CLOVER" AND "MY LITTLE GOTH SISTEEER"!
RIKO'S AN OTAKU.
IF IT ISN'T OBVIOUS ENOUGH...
AND OUT OF THOSE, SHE'S THE MOST ATTRACTED TO GAMES WHOSE HEROINES WEAR CLOTHES LIKE HERS.
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S A GIRL, SHE GOES GAGA...
...OVER 15+ GAMES-- SPECIFICALLY, "GAL GAMES."
THEY WOULDN'T SELL HER ANYTHING.
Sorry!
Whoaa?!
BUT RECENTLY, WHEN RIKO WENT TO THE GAME STORE HERE ON ACADEMY ISLAND...
APPARENTLY THEY THOUGHT SHE WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

It's not for me, okay? (Seriously.)
And this and this.
Uh, this is for a friend!
AND SO...
I WAS SO EMBARRASSED I COULD DIE, BUT I BOUGHT SOME FOR HER ...
AS PART OF MY PLAN TO DEAL WITH ARIA.
ARIA REFUSES TO TELL ME WHY SHE WANTS ME AS HER SLAVE.
TO FIGHT ANOTHER BUTEI, WHAT YOU NEED FIRST AND FOREMOST IS INFORMATION-- AND SOMETHING TO BARGAIN WITH.
OH.
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO INVESTIGATE HER FROM AS MANY ANGLES AS I CAN, TO FIGURE IT OUT FOR MYSELF.
WHAT? THEY'RE THE SAME AS THE OTHERS.
I DON'T WANT THESE TWO.
NO, THEY'RE NOT!
SWSH
I HAAATE THESE KINDS OF GAMES.

LABELS LIKE "2" AND "3" ARE INSULTING!
SLAPPING A NUMBER AT THE END OF A TITLE IS AN INSULT TO THE GAMES!
WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR BOAT...
...OKAY, THEN YOU CAN HAVE EVERYTHING OTHER THAN THE SEQUELS.
Where are you stuffing those?
RIKO'S AN IDIOT.
A BONA FIDE IDIOT.
BUT WHILE IN THE INQUESTA DIVISION, I FOUND OUT...
THAT THIS RIDICULOUS IDIOT HAS A SUITABLY RIDICULOUS SKILL.
NOW IN EXCHANGE, TELL ME WHAT YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT ARIA.
SWIP
YES SIR!!

SHE CAN FIND INFORMATION LIKE NO ONE ELSE.
RIKO IS AN INTERNET ADDICT. HER HOBBIES INCLUDE WIRETAPPING, INTERCEPTING EMAILS, HACKING, AND SO ON--ALL BUTEI-RELATED ACTIVITIES.
SHE'S A MODERN PHANTOM THIEF, SO TO SPEAK--AN INFORMATION THIEF.
SO SHE'S AN A-RANK BUTEI.
OKAY... LET'S HURRY
I SLIPPED OUT THROUGH THE BACK OF A RESTROOM.
TMP
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE ARIA FINDS OUT AND COMES AFTER ME
KRLL

WHAAAT? BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS YOU'RE ALL OVER EACH OTHER!
LIKE, YOU TWO LEFT YOUR DORM ARM IN ARM! THE BOYS IN HER FAN CLUB SAY THEY'LL KILL YOU!
GRARH
STOP MAKING HORNS.
SO, KII-KUN, DOES ARIA HAVE YOU TOTALLY WHIPPED?
LIKE, YOU COULD JUST ASK YOUR GIRLFRIEND ABOUT THIS STUFF YOURSELF.
SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND.
DANGLE
WHOA
NONE OF THEM, IDIOT!
STARE
OOH
WHAT BASE HAVE YOU MADE IT TO?
SO LIKE, HOW FAR HAVE YOU GOTTEN?!
WHAT?
I HAD TO DRAG HER, THAT'S ALL IT WAS...
DRAAAG
©2005 CS COOL STUDIO, JAPAN/ PUBLISHED BY ASCII MEDIA WORKS
YOU ALWAYS NUDGE THE CONVERSATION IN THAT DIRECTION.
IT'S A BAD HABIT.
Tch
NUDGE
NUDGE
NUDGE
LIAAAR! YOU'RE BOTH HEALTHY YOUNG ADULTS!

OKAY.
HMM... FIRST OF ALL, SHE'S AN S-RANK.
YOU CAN COUNT THE NUMBER OF SECOND YEAR S-RANK STUDENTS ON ONE HAND, YOU KNOW.
...THAT CHECKS OUT.
BACK TO BUSI-NESS.
ABOUT ARIA...
TELL ME ABOUT HER STANDING IN THE ASSAULT DIVISION.
SHE'S, LIKE, EVEN SMALLER THAN ME, YET SHE'S REALLY SKILLED AT CLOSE QUARTERS COMBAT.
AND UH... VA... VALE... VALE TU...
VALE TUDO? THAT'S NO HOLDS BARRED BRAZILIAN UNARMED COMBAT.
AND SHE KNOWS MOVES FROM EVERYTHING FROM BOXING TO JUDO...
RIGHT, RIGHT! THAT.
HER AGILITY DURING THE BIKE HIJACKING ...
NO ORDINARY PERSON COULD MATCH THAT.

SHE'S A GENIUS WITH BOTH GUNS AND BLADES. WITH EITHER ONE SHE'LL USE TWO AT A TIME, SINCE SHE'S AMBIDEXTROUS.
I NOTICED.
...THEN DO YOU KNOW HER ALIAS?
HER ALIAS?
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR A BUTEI WITH SUCH AN ASTOUNDING RECORD TO EARN AN ALIAS.
SO ARIA ALREADY HAS ONE AT ONLY 16...?
"ARIA THE QUADRA."

...I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S FUNNY ABOUT THAT.
IN BUTEI TERMS, A PERSON WHO WIELDS TWO BLADES OR TWO GUNS IS CALLED A "DOUBLA."
SO "QUADRA" MUST REFER TO HOW SHE USES FOUR WEAPONS.
A QUADRA! FUNNY, ISN'T IT?
APPARENTLY SHE'S ON A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR NOW, BUT...
...THAT'S ENOUGH ABOUT THAT. NEXT... I KNOW. WHAT KIND OF MISSIONS HAS SHE DONE?
OH.
ARIA'S WORKED ALL OVER EUROPE FOR THE LONDON BUTEI DEPARTMENT SINCE SHE WAS 14.
IT'S ACTUALLY INCREDIBLE.

AND IN THAT TIME ...
SHE'S NEVER ONCE LET A CRIMINAL ESCAPE.
N-NOT EVEN ONCE?
SHE'S TAKEN IN EVERYONE SHE'S GONE AFTER.
A STRING OF 99 ARRESTS--AND EACH ONE MADE WITH ONLY ONE ASSAULT OPERATION.
SHIVER
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
99 ARRESTS, ALL ON THE FIRST GO?
HOW DID I END UP WITH THIS MONSTER AFTER ME?
AHH ...
WHAT ELSE... OKAY, HER NATIONALITY.
HMMM. HER FATHER'S HALF-JAPANESE, HALF-BRITISH.
SO SHE'S A QUARTER JAPANESE?

WHICH IS WHY SHE'S SO DIFFERENT FROM YOUR AVERAGE JAPANESE...
Not to mention her name.
HER MIDDLE INITIAL COMES FROM HER ENGLISH FAMILY.
THEY'RE A PRETTY FAMOUS FAMILY.
HER GRAND-MOTHER IS EVEN A DAME.
A DAME?
IT'S ONE OF THE TITLES THE BRITISH MONARCHY CAN BESTOW.
MEN GET "SIR," AND WOMEN GET "DAME."
Wait, wait.
WAIT, SO SHE'S AN ARISTOCRAT?!
UH HUH, SHE'S A HONEST-TO-GOODNESS ARISTOCRAT.
BUT ARIA DIDN'T GET ALONG TOO WELL WITH THE H FAMILY.
AND I KNOW WHYYY!
BUUUT, THEY'RE... WEEELL...
HEH
TELL ME. I GOT YOUR GAMES, DIDN'T I?

Well—
SWISH
GOOD LUCK!
LOW FIVE
HUH?
I, LIKE, HATE PEOPLE WHO RIDE ON THEIR PARENTS' COATTAILS.
I SUCK AT ENGLISH.
CAN'T YOU GOOGLE SOME ENGLISH SITES? YOU CAN FIND OUT YOURSELF.
SUH-LAP
OH MY GOSH! I'M SOOO SORRY!
OH!
KRSH
FORGET ABOUT IT. IT WAS CHEAP ANYWAY.
Only 1980 yen.
NOOO! LEMME FIX IT! I'LL FIX IT WITH LOVE!
click

FWAP
IF WORD GETS OUT THAT I BROKE SOMETHING OF A CLIENT'S, IT'LL KILL MY REP!
SWOOSH
SWIP
JOLT
ANYTHING ELSE?
AH-- NO.
FWAP
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH!
...KINJI.
BLUSH
CRAP ...
THEY'RE... BIG.

GOLD, HUH...
TAP
YOU'RE LATE.

...HOW DID YOU GET IN?
I'M A BUTEI.
Aaand I was right.
I get the feeling this is a stupid question.
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE GETTING ANGRY. YOU'RE NOT MUCH OF A LADY, BROWGIRL.
SWIP
WHAT, DID YOU INTEND TO LEAVE A LADY WAITING AT YOUR DOORSTEP?
HOW SHAME-FUL.
WH--HOW CAN YOU NOT SEE THE CHARM OF MY FOREHEAD?!
BECAUSE YOU HAVE A HUGE FOREHEAD.
BROW-GIRL?

I'M AWARE. YOU'RE ACTUALLY CUTE.
YEAH, I KNOW.
...
BLEEEE
YOU DON'T EVEN QUALIFY AS A HUMAN BEING!
AT LEAST ON THE OUTSIDE.
I WAS EVEN A MODEL FOR A HAIRSTYLE CATALOG IN ITALY, YOU KNOW.
MY FOREHEAD IS MY SELLING POINT.
HEH KOH
AN ARIST-OCRAT INDEED.
NO WONDER YOU FUSS OVER YOUR LOOKS.
FWUMP
FSSSH
YEAH.
TMP TMP
...SO YOU INVESTI-GATED ME?

SO YOU LOOKED THAT UP, TOO...
NOW YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A BUTEI.
BUT ...
I HEARD IT'S TRUE THAT NO CRIMINAL HAS EVER GOTTEN AWAY FROM YOU.
OOPS
HA, MUST BE AN INCRED-IBLE GUY.
WHO SLIPPED PAST YOU?
DID RIKO MISS SOME-THING?
SWIP
THERE WAS ONE CRIMINAL WHO GOT AWAY FROM ME RECENTLY.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE.
ぷるぷる
YOU.

RAAA
WH--
I'M NOT A CRIMINAL!
WHY WOULD YOU COUNT ME AS ONE?!
I TOLD YOU, THAT WAS OUT OF MY CONTROL!
SHUT UP, SHUT UP! ...ANYWAY!
BWISH
YOU SEXUALLY ASSAULTED ME!
ARE YOU STILL PLAYING INNOCENT?! YOU BRUTE! YOU MAGGOT!
BWISH
BWISH
BWISH
I'M JUST AN E-RANK STUDENT. I'M NOTHING SPECIAL.
THAT WAS JUST A FLUKE.
YOU'LL DO AS MY SLAVE!
COME BACK TO ASSAULT! SHOW ME YOUR TRUE ABILITY--LIKE WHEN YOU ESCAPED FROM ME!
Th--
THAT WAS ...
YOUR ENTRANCE EXAM GRADED YOU AS AN S-RANK!
SORRY, TOO BAD. NOW GET OUT.
YOU'RE LYING!

MY INTUITION'S NEVER WRONG!
WHICH MEANS THAT IT WAS NOT A FLUKE!
...SO SHE FOUND OUT.
GULP
L-LOOK...
I CAN'T NOW. GET OUT!
"NOW"?
SO THERE'S A CONDITION TO IT?
TELL ME WHAT IT IS,
AND I'LL COOPERATE.

YOU THINK THAT'S NOT A BIG DEAL, BUT--
FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT'S LIKE YOU'VE SET OFF A BOMB!
YOU'LL COOP-ERATE ...?!
BLUUUSH
I'LL HELP YOU, AS COMPEN-SATION FOR SERVING ME!
IT'D MEAN-- SHE'D HAVE TO AROUSE ME!
TELL ME WHAT TO DO!
SWISH
...!
...NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT--

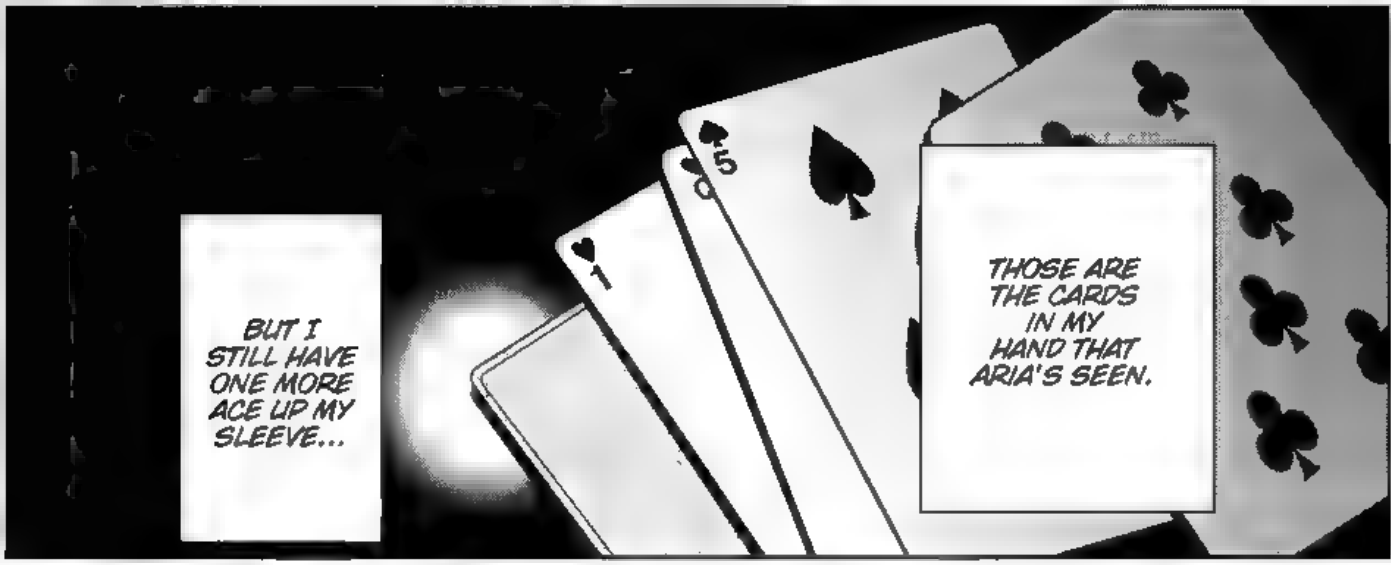
...I'LL HELP YOU...
ARIA AND I ARE ALONE IN HERE.
BDMP
THE SUN'S GONE DOWN--
BDMP
...WHAT?
BDMP
STOP!
DON'T THINK ANY FURTHER THAN THAT, KINJI!
BDMP
BDMP
I'LL DO ANYTHING!
SWSH

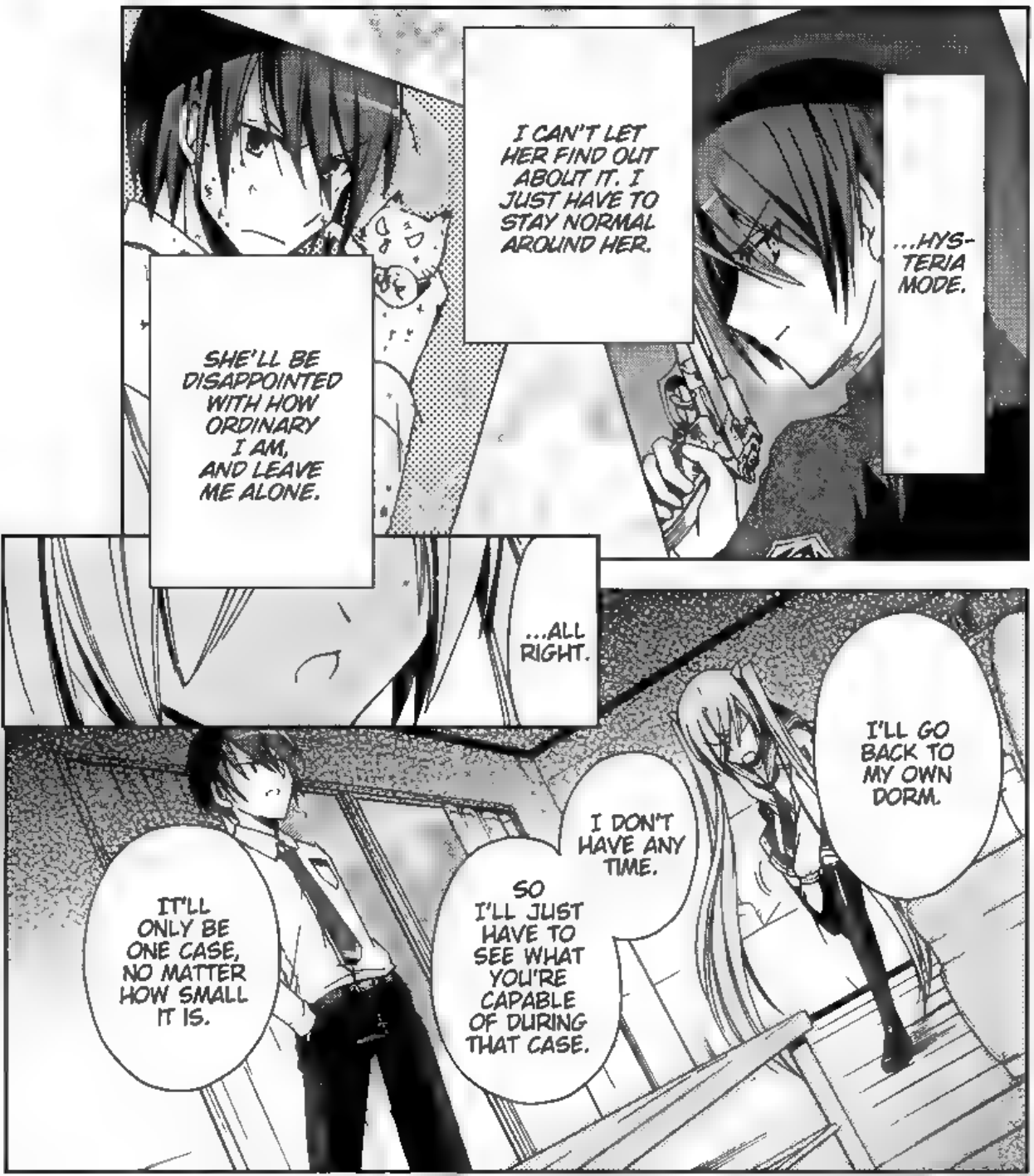
TELL ME.
TELL ME, KINJI...!
...NOT GOOD.
BADUMP
I'M STARTING TO GO INTO...
WOBBLE
HYSTERIA MODE...

I DON'T WANT...
...TO BE THAT WAY!
...NO!
SHOVE
FWUMP
Ah...

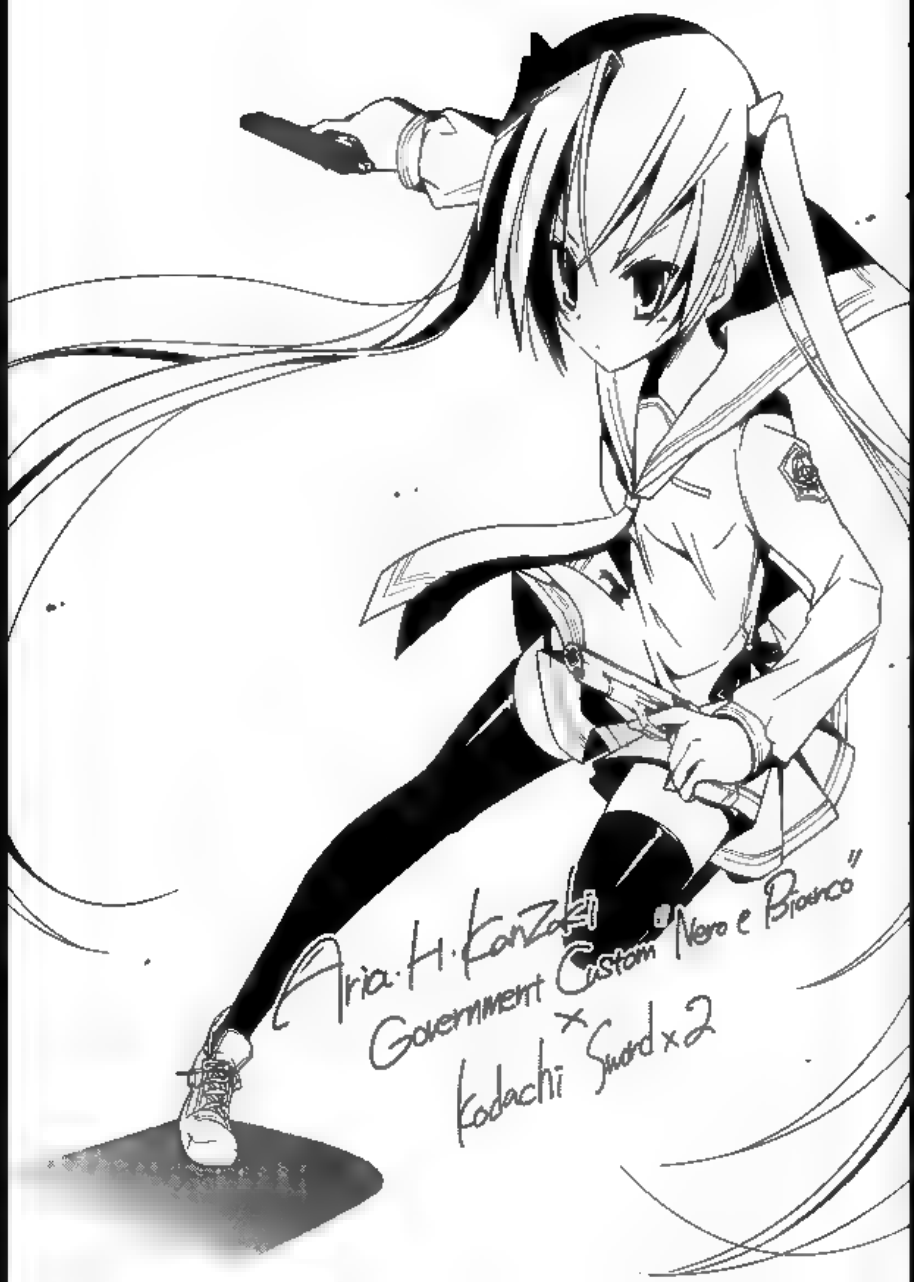
TYPHOON 81 HAS MOVED FROM THE PACIFIC OCEAN TO OKINAWA
WHERE STRONG WINDS CONTINUE TO
...JUST ONCE.
I'LL GO BACK TO ASSAULT.
BUT I'LL ONLY TEAM UP WITH YOU ONCE.
JUST ONCE?

I'M NOT TRANS-FERRING BACK.
...
I'LL GO TO THE ASSAULT CLASSES AS SELF-STUDY.
I'LL HELP YOU SOLVE THE FIRST CASE YOU GET--AND THAT'S IT.
THAT'S MY CONDITION.
IS THAT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU?
...
ARIA WANTS HER OWN SLAVE--A PAWN. AND VEHEMENTLY, AT THAT.
I CAUGHT HER ATTENTION BECAUSE SHE MET ME IN HYSTERIA MODE, AND I GOT AWAY FROM HER.
THAT'S WHY SHE THINKS I'D BE A CAPABLE SLAVE.


BUT I STILL HAVE ONE MORE ACE UP MY SLEEVE...
THOSE ARE THE CARDS IN MY HAND THAT ARIA'S SEEN.


I CAN'T LET HER FIND OUT ABOUT IT. I JUST HAVE TO STAY NORMAL AROUND HER.
...HYS-TERIA MODE.
SHE'LL BE DISAPPOINTED WITH HOW ORDINARY I AM, AND LEAVE ME ALONE.
...ALL RIGHT.
I'LL GO BACK TO MY OWN DORM.
I DON'T HAVE ANY TIME.
SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF DURING THAT CASE.
IT'LL ONLY BE ONE CASE, NO MATTER HOW SMALL IT IS.

OKAY.
ONE CASE--NO MATTER HOW *BIG* IT IS.
I GOT IT.
BUT IF YOU SLACK ON THE JOB, I'LL BLOW YOU A NEW HOLE.
I WON'T. I PROMISE.
I'LL DO THE BEST I CAN.
IN MY ***NORMAL*** *MODE.*
GOT THAT?


Aria·H·Kanzaki
Government Custom "Nero e Bianco"
×
Kodachi Sword×2

強襲科弾 7
BULLET 7 ASSAULT
--I'M BACK.
CLANG
RATATA
CLANG
BACK IN ASSAULT ...
THWACK
"THE CLASS OF NO TOMORROW"
IT'S KINJI.
KINJI?

GLARE
NOW THEN, DIE A SECOND EARLIER THAN ME, WON'T YOU PLEASE?
DOOOOM
KINJIII, SO YOU FINALLY CAME HOME TO DIE!
SHIP
AMONG US BUTEI, BLOCKHEADS LIKE YOU ARE THE FIRST TO DROP!
HELL NO! YOU DIE A MILLI-SECOND EARLIER!
KOHK
OH, YEAH? THEN HOW'RE YOU STILL ALIVE?
DOOOOM
HA HA HA
SUP, KINJI?!
WE KNEW YOU'D BE BACK!
HA HA HA
"DIE" IS THE USUAL GREETING HERE.
DOOOOM
DOOOOM
WHEN IN ROME, DO AS THE ROMANS DO.

BG TEXT: NO, YOU HURRY UP AND DIE! WHAT, YOU'RE STILL ALIVE? HAVE A QUICK, PAINLESS DEATH!

YOU'RE QUITE THE POPULAR ONE
THEY'RE THE LAST PEOPLE I WANT TO BE POPULAR WITH
TWP TWP
YOU KNOW, YOU SEEM ANTISOCIAL... KIND OF GLOOMY, EVEN.
BUT THEY ALL...
I WASN'T EXPECTING THAT
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT?
IT'S LIKE THEIR HATS ARE OFF TO YOU

THEY STILL REMEMBER WHAT I DID DURING OUR ENTRANCE EXAM.
SAY KIRA!
THANKS
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA--I'M ONLY BACK IN ASSAULT BECAUSE YOU LEFT ME NO CHOICE.
AFTER WE FINISH OUR FIRST CASE, IT'S BACK TO INQUESTA FOR ME.

CLICK
SEE, NO ONE IN ASSAULT APPROACHES ME.
THERE'S TOO MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE IN SKILL. NO ONE CAN MATCH ME.
BUT THAT'S FINE... I AM "ARIA," AFTER ALL.
"ARIA"?
WHEN EVERYONE IN ASSAULT GATHERED AROUND YOU LIKE THAT, I THOUGHT...
I KNOW THAT.
BUT, WELL...
YOU LOOKED KIND OF COOL.
...WHY IS SHE TELLING ME THIS?
GULP

SO.
YOU WANT TO ENSLAVE ME SO YOU CAN HAVE A DUET PARTNER?
IN OPERA AN ARIA IS A SONG WRITTEN FOR A SOLOIST
THAT'S HOW IT IS FOR ME NO MATTER WHICH BUTEI SCHOOL I ATTEND--I'M ALONE
IT WAS THE SAME IN LONDON AND ROME
I DON'T GET YOU
WAS TOO!
THAT WASN'T FUNNY
YOU'RE PRETTY FUNNY SOMETIMES
DON'T HIDE!

YOU'RE MUCH BETTER LIKE THIS.
YOU'VE ONLY JUST GONE BACK TO ASSAULT, AND YOU'VE LIGHTENED UP ALREADY, KINJI.
THAT'S NOT... TRUE.
BEFORE, IT SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE TORMENTED BY SOMETHING. LIKE YOU WERE LYING TO YOURSELF.
SHE HONESTLY SEEMS HAPPY THAT I'M BACK IN ASSAULT.
...
SHE'S STILL BEING DIFFICULT, BUT...
SHE'S SO EASY TO READ.
Not exactly cut out for sleuthing.
I'M GOING TO THE GC. GO HOME.
TO THE GIRLS' DORM.
BLEEP!
WE'RE GOING THE SAME WAY TO THE BUS STOP!
HEY, WHAT'S A GC?
IT'S SHORT FOR "GAME CENTER." THE ARCADE.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT?
I'M A RETURNEE, HOW WOULD I KNOW?

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
TUMP
TUMP
TUMP
TUMP
TUMP
OKAY. I'LL GO, TOO.
I'LL HANG OUT WITH YOU TODAY. CONSIDER IT A REWARD.
NO THANKS.
THAT'S NOT A REWARD-- IT'S A PUNISH-MENT.
TMP
TMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
THEN QUIT STALKING ME!
NO!!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR STUPID FACE, EITHER!
I DON'T EVEN WANNA LOOK AT YOU RIGHT NOW!
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
W-WHAT THE HECK...?
SHE'S FAST!
HUFF
HUFF

OH.
IT'S A UFO CATCHER.
UFO CATCHER?
HUFF
...WHAT'S THIS?
HUFF
WHAT A CHILDISH NAME.
STARE
BUT I FIGURED ANYWHERE YOU'D GO WOULD ONLY HAVE FOOLISH G--
BA-DUHN
EEP
...AHHH...
SQUEAK
WHAT? IS IT REALLY THAT STRANGE?
...

FOR REAL?
BLUSH
SAG
...SO CUTE...
SURE, THOSE PLUSH ANIMALS ARE CUTE, BUT...
BLUSH
EVEN PRE-SCHOOLERS CAN FIGURE THIS OUT.
IS IT THAT EASY?
I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WORKS.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT?
NOD
YEAH.
WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?
I NEVER EXPECTED TO HEAR THOSE WORDS FROM THE MOUTH OF THE DEMONIC "ARIA THE QUADRA."
Totally out of character.
...
WHAT'S WITH HER?

SHE'S LOST IT.
GLARE

FLOP
VRRR
POP

I'LL DO IT ONE MORE TIME!
POP
ANYBODY WOULD UNDERSTAND AFTER ONE TRY.
URGH
NOW I UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS!
VRRR
TH...
THAT WAS JUST PRACTICE!

RAWR
BY THE WAY, YOU GET AN EXTRA TRY IF YOU PUT IN 500 YEN.
SLAM
SLAM
SHUT UP!
I'LL GET ONE THIS TIME! I FIGURED OUT THE TRICK!
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
PLOP
PLOP
NOW I GET IT!
CLINK
THIS TIME'S FOR REAL!
SLAM
SLAM
PLOP
HN-
DON'T BREAK IT, ARIA.
GRRR!!
GRAAHH
SPOKEN LIKE SOMEONE WHO HASN'T FIGURED IT OUT.
PLOP

MOVE IT.
I'D BETTER DO SOMETHING.
SHOT!
...AHHH.
GRAAARH
SHE'S HOPE-LESS.
plop
THIS TIME'S REALLY FOR REAL!
REALLY REALLY REALLY REALLY REAAAL!!
VRRR
BOOP
GOTTA AIM FOR ONE THAT'S CLOSE TO THE HOLE...

GWSH
RUSTLE
SWIP
KINJI, LOOK!
TWO OF THEM!
DON'T LOSE THEM, OR ELSE!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO NOW!
AH...
SWISH
ALMOST ...
GULP
COME ON, GO IN...!

PLUNK
PLUNK
!
YEAH!
WHOO-HOO!
SMACK
AH.
FWAP
FWAP
...DAM-MIT!
HOW COULD I GET CAUGHT UP IN THAT WITH HER...
Y-YOU...
YOU DID WELL-- FOR AN IDIOT!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

SQUISH
SOOO CUUUTE!
...LEO-PON?
HE'S ...
TAG: LEOPON
...

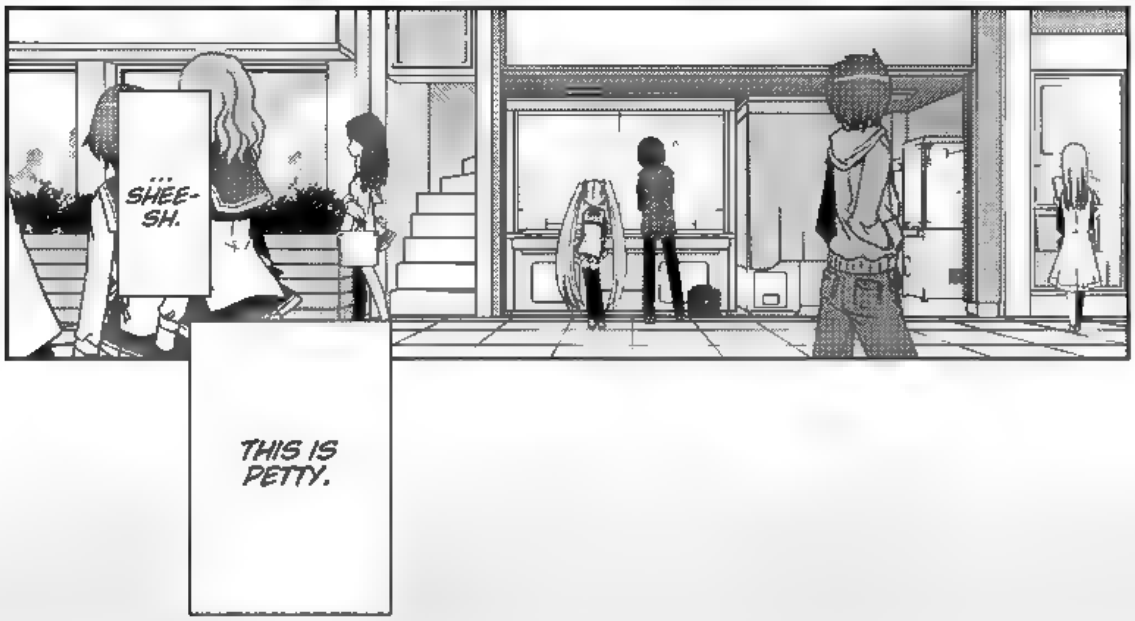
COULD IT BE THAT WHAT SHE SAID ABOUT ME...
IS ACTUALLY TRUE FOR HER? THAT SHE'S LYING TO HERSELF, FORCING HERSELF TO ACT THE WAY SHE DOES?

COULD IT BE... THAT JUST MAYBE ...
SWISH
SHE'S JUST A NORMAL GIRL?

ARIA...

KINJI.
SOMETHING ...
MUST HAVE CHANGED HER.
I'LL LET YOU HAVE ONE.
IT'S YOUR REWARD FOR YOUR GOOD WORK.
UH...
SURE.
SO CUTE...
WHO KNEW SHE COULD MAKE THAT FACE?
I'VE NEVER HAD A CELL PHONE CHARM.
GAH.
CAN'T GET IT IN...

COME TO THINK OF IT...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER GOTTEN A GIFT FROM A GIRL.
Shirayuki doesn't count.
...ME, TOO.
I'M NOT LOSING TO YOU.
HMPH
KINJI! WHOEVER GETS THEIRS ON FIRST, WINS.
WHAT?
I'VE ALMOST GOT IT!


...SHEE-SH.
THIS IS PETTY.

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

BEEP
BEEP
awsh
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

PLIP
PLIP
STILL A LITTLE EARLY...
GUESS I'LL HAVE TEA OR SOME-THING.
FSSSH
I LEFT EARLY. SO...
WHAT THE HECK?

WHY IS THAT BUS ALREADY HERE?
And with a friendly
in my face.

YEAH, BUT MY BIKE WAS BLOWN TO PIECES!
WISH I COULD, DUDE, BUT THERE'S NO ROOM!
RIDE YOUR BIKE.
IF I DON'T TAKE THE BUS I'LL BE LATE!

WHOO! MADE IT ON!
HEY, KINJI! 'SUP?
LEMME ON, MUTOU!

A GUY'S GOTTA KNOW WHEN TO GIVE UP, KINJI
THEM'S THE BREAKS!
JUST SKIP FIRST PERIOD!
SWIP

VROOOM
VRRR
WELP, SEE YA IN SECOND PERIOD!
CLACK
I HAVE TO WALK THROUGH THIS DOWN-POUR?
DAMMIT.
SSSH
IT WAS FIRST DEVELOPED AS A PROTOTYPE FOR INEXPENSIVE AIRPLANE RUNWAYS...
BUT WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT, IT WAS SOLD OFF.
ACADEMY ISLAND IS THIN--BUT RIDICULOUSLY LONG.
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN MAKE IT ON TIME...
GOAL General Curriculum Bldg
Vocational Bldg
START
Boys' Dorm
Bus Stop
Monorail Station
Rough Map of Academy City

PLIP
THIS RAIN...
MAYBE I SHOULD FOLLOW MUTOU'S ADVICE AND GIVE UP ON FIRST PERIOD.
...LIES A SECOND, UNUSED MEGAFLOAT OF THE SAME SHAPE--THE "EMPTY ISLAND."
AS PROOF OF THAT, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE...
IF I WANT TO TRANSFER INTO A NORMAL SCHOOL, I CAN'T SLACK--
...NO, FIRST PERIOD'S PART OF THE GENERAL CURRICULUM. LANGUAGE ARTS.
PERFECT. GO TO ARMORY C AND EQUIP YOURSELF. THEN COME TO THE ROOF OF THE GIRLS' DORM.
NOW.
WHAT? WE DON'T HAVE ASSAULT CLASS UNTIL FIFTH PERIOD.
KINJI, WHERE ARE YOU?
HELLO?
ARIA? I'M BY THE ASSAULT BUILDING.

THIS ISN'T FOR SCHOOL! IT'S A CASE!
WHEN I SAY NOW, I MEAN NOW!
...A CASE.
GWSH
WHAT IS IT? WHAT HAPPEN-ED?
I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT IT'S NOTHING MAJOR--
--... ---- --...
--... ---- ---

REKI...
THAT ARIA..
FOR A TRANSFER STUDENT, SHE'S GOT GOOD CONNECTIONS.
AND SHE'S STILL AN S-RANK--THE SNIPE DIVISION'S ACE.
LIKE ME, REKI WAS CLASSIFIED AS AN S-RANK STUDENT FROM HER ENTRANCE EXAM RESULTS.

NO ONE ACTUALLY KNOWS HER LAST NAME.
NOT EVEN REKI HERSELF.
SWIP
SWIP
REKI.
DID ARIA CALL YOU HERE?
YES.
HEAD-PHONES AGAIN?
WHAT KIND OF MUSIC ARE YOU ALWAYS LISTENING TO, ANYWAY?
CLACK
IT IS NOT MUSIC.
IT IS THE SOUND OF THE WIND.
SWISSS!!
PCH
...WE'RE OUT OF TIME.

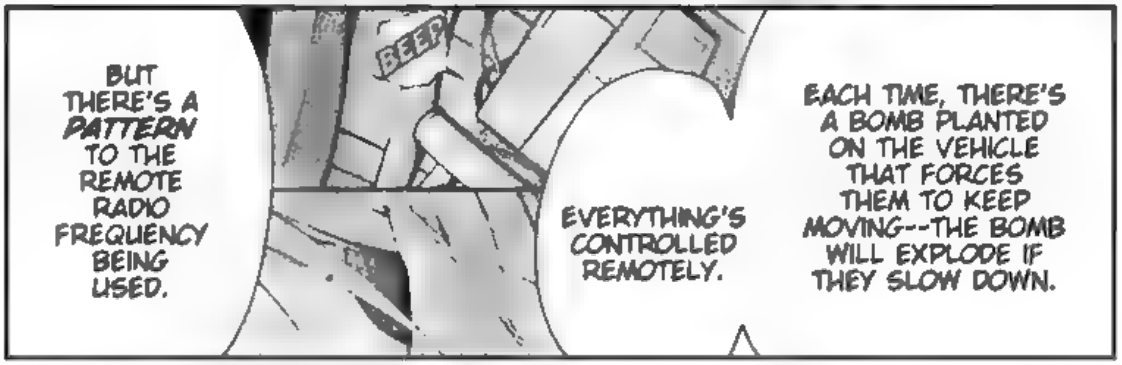
I HOPED I COULD FIND ANOTHER S-RANK, BUT...
THEY'RE ALL OUT ON OTHER MISSIONS.
I'LL MAKE UP FOR THE LACK OF FIREPOWER.
PURSUE? WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE'LL PURSUE AS A THREE-PERSON TEAM.
AT LEAST GIVE US A PROPER BRIEFING!
IT'S A BUS HIJACKING.

THE BUS TO BUTEI HIGH--
THE ONE THAT STOPS IN FRONT OF YOUR DORM AT 7:58.
WH...
WHAT?
OUR BUS WAS HIJACKED?
BUT MUTOU--
HE AND EVERYONE ELSE ARE PACKED IN THERE LIKE SARDINES!

SPLISH
SPLISH
IS THE HIJACKER ON THE BUS?
WE CAN'T BE SURE, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE SO.
THERE'S A BOMB ON THE BUS.
---A BOMB?
GASP
Z...
SWISH
KINJI.

IT'S THE SAME M.O. AS WHEN YOUR BIKE WAS HIJACKED.
THIS IS THE WORK OF THE BUTEI KILLER.

FSSSH
NEXT WAS A CAR.
THE FIRST VICTIM'S MOTORCYCLE WAS HIJACKED.
THEN YOUR BIKE. AND NOW A BUS.
THE BUTEI KILLER...?
8弾・武偵殺し
BULLET 8. THE BUTEI KILLER


BEEP
BUT THERE'S A PATTERN TO THE REMOTE RADIO FREQUENCY BEING USED.
EVERYTHING'S CONTROLLED REMOTELY.
EACH TIME, THERE'S A BOMB PLANTED ON THE VEHICLE THAT FORCES THEM TO KEEP MOVING--THE BOMB WILL EXPLODE IF THEY SLOW DOWN.

BUT--THE BUTEI KILLER WAS ARRESTED!
I PICKED UP THAT FREQUENCY WHEN YOUR BIKE WAS HIJACKED. AND NOW I FOUND IT AGAIN.

SOME-THING'S OFF.
THIS STORY'S TOO MUDDLED--
HOLD ON, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING--
...WHAT?
THAT WASN'T THE REAL CULPRIT!
GLARE
I'M THE LEADER OF THIS PARTY!
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO EXPLAIN-- AND YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW!

FSSSH
WAIT. WAIT, ARIA, YOU--
THAT BOMB COULD GO OFF AT ANY MOMENT!
THIS CASE HAS ALREADY STARTED!
OUR MISSION IS TO SAVE EVERYONE ON THAT BUS!
THOSE ARE YOUR ORDERS!
THE BUTEI CHARTER, ARTICLE ONE!
"TRUST IN YOUR ALLIES, AND ALWAYS LEND THEM YOUR AID!" THE VICTIMS HERE ARE YOUR ALLIES--OTHER BUTEI!
IF YOU WANT TO BE THE LEADER, THEN BE MY GUEST! BUT ACT LIKE ONE AND TELL US WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON!
WE PUT OUR LIVES ON THE LINE NO MATTER WHAT CASE WE TAKE!
THAT'S ALL THE EXPLANATION YOU NEED!
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP

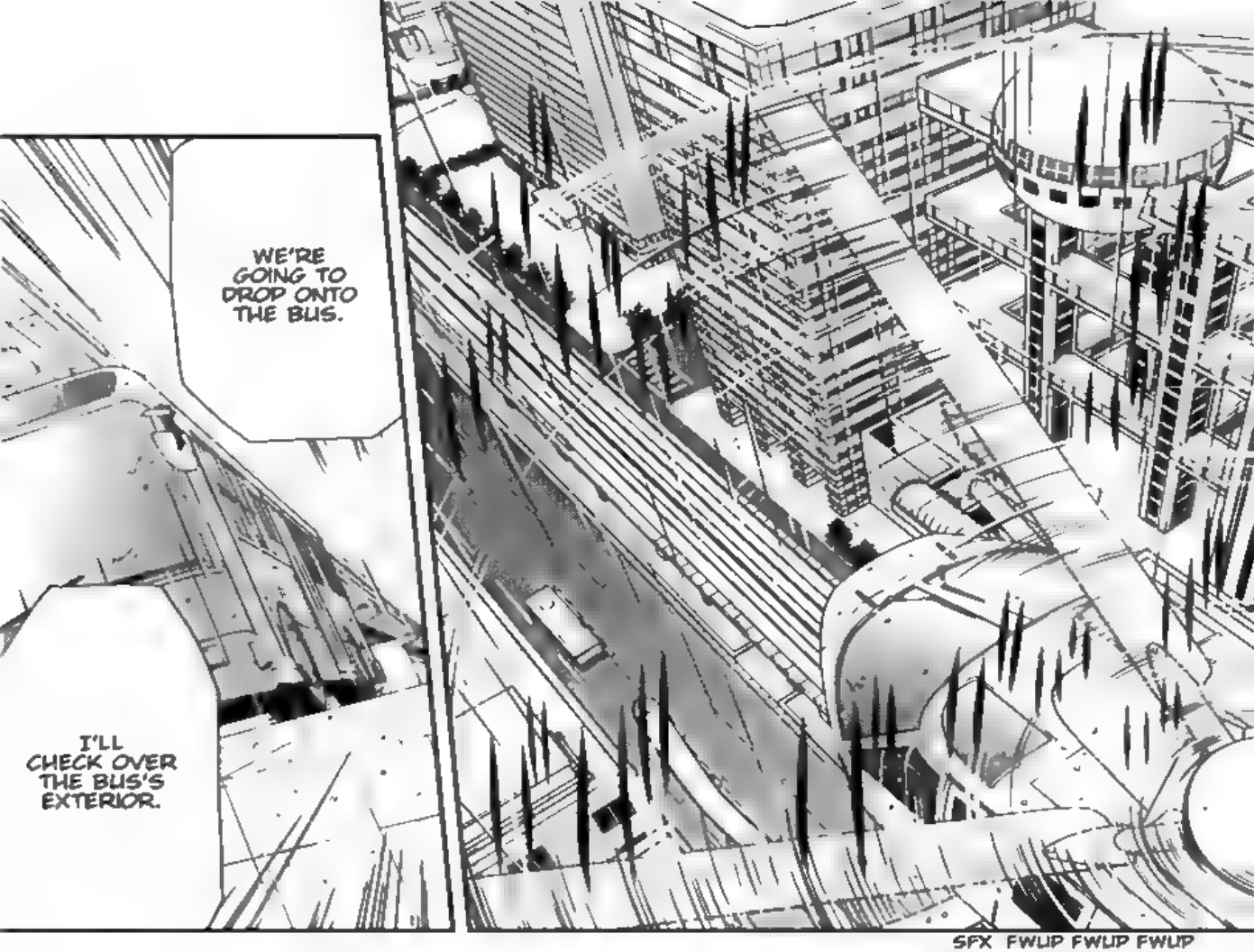
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
SHE EVEN BROUGHT IN A HELICOPTER?
...DAMMIT! FINE!
I'LL DO IT!
WE MUST REALLY HAVE NO TIME FOR AN EXPLANATION.
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP

KINJI:
THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST CASE--LIKE WE PROMISED.
...AND IT'S A BIG ONE.
I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO CATCH A BREAK.
YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR PROMISE.
I'M DYING TO SEE YOUR TRUE SKILLS.
I'M TELLING YOU, I DON'T HAVE THE SKILLS THAT YOU THINK I HAVE.
NOT TO MENTION I'M OUT OF PRACTICE.
PHUP

YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE DRAGGING AN E-RANK BUTE! ALONG ON SUCH A DIFFICULT CASE?
IF YOU END UP IN TROUBLE, KINJI...
RRMM
I'LL PROTECT YOU. DON'T WORRY.
THE BUS IS NOW CROSSING THE SOUTHERN BRIDGE TO DAIBA.
WE RECEIVED REPORTS FROM THE STUDENTS ON THE BUS THAT IT HAD BEEN HIJACKED.
THE BUS HASN'T MADE ANY STOPS AFTER THE BOYS' DORM.

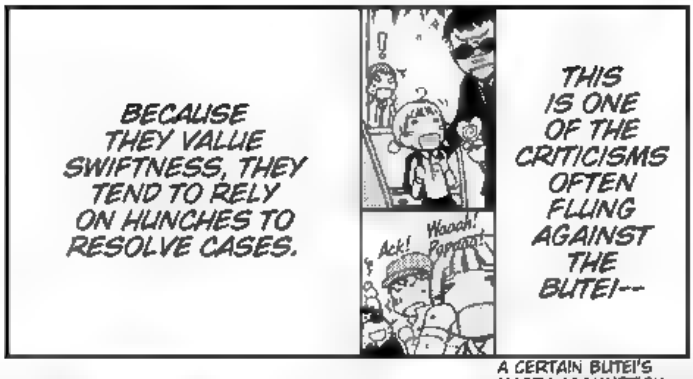
SO WE'LL BE THE FIRST TO BOARD IT?
OF COURSE
I STARTED PREPARING AS SOON AS I PICKED UP THE REMOTE CONTROL'S RADIO WAVES-- BEFORE THE HIJACK WAS EVEN REPORTED.
WHAT ABOUT THE POLICE OR THE TOKYO BUTEI OFFICE? AREN'T THEY DOING ANYTHING?
THEY ARE
BUT DEALING WITH SOMETHING LIKE A RUNAWAY BUS TAKES PREPARATION.
IS THE ENGRAVING ON THAT GRIP A WOMAN?
I SEE IT.
SOMETHING ABOUT HER LOOKS LIKE ARIA...

I DON'T SEE ANYTHING, REKI.
THE BUS IS TURNING RIGHT, IN FRONT OF HOTEL NIKKO.
I CAN SEE BUTEI HIGH STUDENTS THROUGH THE WINDOW.
W-WOW..
HOW GOOD IS YOUR EYESIGHT?
I HAVE 20/2 VISION.


WE'RE GOING TO DROP ONTO THE BUS.
I'LL CHECK OVER THE BUS'S EXTERIOR.
SFX FWUP FWUP FWUP

INSIDE... IF THE CULPRIT'S IN THERE, WE'LL BE PUTTING THE HOSTAGES IN DANGER.
THE BUTEI KILLER WOULDN'T BE INSIDE.

CLUNK
KINJI, YOU'LL GO INSIDE AND REPORT THE SITUATION TO ME.
REKI, STAY IN THE HELICOPTER AND WAIT FOR ORDERS.


BECAUSE THEY VALUE SWIFTNESS, THEY TEND TO RELY ON HUNCHES TO RESOLVE CASES.
!
Ack!
Waaah! Papaaa!
THIS IS ONE OF THE CRITICISMS OFTEN FLUNG AGAINST THE BUTEI--

A CERTAIN BUTEI'S HASTY ASSUMPTION.

SHE'S FORCING US TO GET THERE FIRST...
...AND USE COMBAT POWER TO SETTLE THE MATTER IN ONE FELL SWOOP.
BUT ARIA'S DISREGARD FOR PROCEDURE IS OVER THE TOP.
YOU MIGHT AS WELL CALL IT SENSE-LESS.
NO WONDER YOU'RE "ARIA" WHEREVER YOU GO...
AND SHE'S OVERESTIMAT-ING ME... HER TEAM MEMBER.
SSSH

FW
FW
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
AD
WHOA
...
SLIP
JUMP
GRAB
HEY! GET SERIOUS!
AH!
I AM!
HWOOO

FSSSH
RIGHT NOW, THIS IS THE BEST I CAN DO!
FSSSH
THUNK
THE CULPRIT ...
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE INSIDE.
GASP
KINJI!
EVERYBODY OKAY?!
KNOCK KNOCK

MAYBE IT'S DIVINE PUNISHMENT FOR ABANDONING YOUR FRIEND.
DAMMIT, WHY DID I EVEN STEP FOOT ON THIS STUPID BUS?
Y-YEAH.
MUTOU ...
DIDN'T THINK I'D SEE YOU UNTIL SECOND PERIOD.
WHAT HAPPENED?
M-MY CELL PHONE WAS SWITCHED!
T-T-T-T-TOHYAMA-SEMPAI! HELP!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, KINJI--THAT GIRL.
...I SEE.
THE BOMB WILL EXPLODE.
SHOULD YOU DECELERATE ...
A-AND THEN THIS STARTED TALKING...

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID. THE CULPRIT'S NOT ON THE BUS.
FIND ANYTHING OUT THERE?
ARIA WAS RIGHT--IT'S THE SAME M.O. AS BEFORE.
THIS IS THE WORK OF WHOEVER HIJACKED MY BIKE.
KINJI, COME IN!
HURRY AND REPORT THE SITUATION!
I FOUND THE BOMB!
I'M GUESSING IT'S 3500 CUBIC CENTIMETERS WORTH OF EXPLOSIVES!
IT'S KACZYNSKI TYPE-BETA C4--THE BUTEI KILLER'S GO-TO BOMB!
THAT'S OVERKILL!
WHAT THE HELL?
WH...

IT'S ENOUGH TO TAKE OUT A TRAIN, NOT JUST A BUS!
SLAM
AHH!
I'M GOING TO CRAWL UNDER AND TRY TO DEFUSE IT--
VROOM
ARIA! ARE YOU OKAY?!
FWAP

PWSH
EVERYONE DOWN!!

TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
STAGG
AH!

SWERVE
EEEEH!
!
HE WAS HIT!
TURN RIGHT

M-MUTOU!
YOU DRIVE!
AND DON'T SLOW DOWN!
I CAN'T HANDLE THIS SITUATION AS I AM NOW!
FWAP
BUT I JUST GOT TICKETED FOR MY MODDED CAR--I CAN ONLY LOSE ONE MORE POINT ON MY LICENSE, YOU KNOW!
G-GOT IT!
YOUR LICENSE IS ALREADY SUSPENDED NO MATTER HOW BADLY YOU DRIVE!
LUCKY YOU, MUTOU--
THIS BUS IS ALREADY A TRAFFIC VIOLATION.

RRMMM
I HOPE YOU FALL OFF--I'LL RUN YOU OVER!!
WE'RE COMING UP ON A TURN!
THEY'RE TRYING TO MAKE US TAKE THE BOMB DOWNTOWN ...!
RRMM
EVERY-BODY TO THE RIGHT!
SWSH

SKREE
SKREE
SKREE
SKREE
SKREE
SKREE
LIFT
SLAM
RRMM
NO WONDER HE'S A TOP STUDENT IN THE LOGI DIVISION.
PHEW
SO HE MOVED THE STUDENTS TO KEEP THE BUS'S CENTER OF GRAVITY?
HEY! ARIA! ARE YOU OKAY?!
DAM
RRMMM

KINJI!
ARIA, YOUR HELMET!
RRMM
IT WAS SHOT OFF BY THAT RENAULT!
WHAT ABOUT YOU?!
YOU CAN'T BE OUT HERE DEFENSELESS, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
WHY CAN'T YOU REMEMBER SOMETHING SO BASIC?!
I GAVE MY HELMET TO MUTOU SO HE COULD DRIVE!
THE DRIVER WAS WOUNDED--
HINOE
GET BACK IN THE--
GASP
BEHIND YOU! GET DOWN!
DON'T STAND THERE, YOU IDIOT!
DASH

HUH?
VRRK
...AH.
IT'S TOO LATE.
I'M DEAD

BAM

ARIA!
ARIAAA!!
ZWIP
BAM
ARIA!!
ROLL
ROLL
HWOOO
DAMMIT!
IF IT SHOOTS NOW--

AH...
IF YOU END UP IN TROUBLE...
ARIA...
I'LL PROTECT YOU.

POP
はっ
GASP
POP
SKREE
KRRRSH
ARIAAAAA!!
POP
KRSSH

FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP

FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
FWUP
A SINGLE BULLET...

REKI...

#9 弾・前髪の下

BULLET 9: BENEATH THE BANGS

I AM A SINGLE BULLET--
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
SPLSH
CLUNK
CLUNK

BWOOSH

HEY! ARE YOU TWO OKAY?!
DASH
KOOR
SHIK
FSSH
FSSH

SIGN: BUTEI HOSPITAL
KREE
武偵病院
ARIA WAS ADMITTED TO THE BUTEI HOSPITAL FOR HER WOUND--BUT IT WAS JUST A LIGHT ONE.
I CAN ONLY SAY THAT SHE GOT LUCKY.
TV, TOP: ANOTHER BUTEI .
BOTTOM: ABOUT 60 BUTEI HIGH STUDENTS WERE TAKEN HOSTAGE...
VTR
SHE WAS GIVEN A MRI BECAUSE OF HER CONCUSSION...
BUT SHE SUFFERED NO INTERNAL BLEEDING--IT WAS JUST A FLESH WOUND.
SIGN: RECEPTION
THE TWO BULLETS THAT HIT ARIA ONLY GRAZED HER FOREHEAD. NOTHING WORSE.

CLACK
620
KANZAKI
TWIRL
TWIRL
Whoa.
A PRIVATE ROOM?
GUESS RIKO DID SAY THAT ARIA'S AN ARISTOCRAT...
CLICK
CASABLANCA LILIES?
...REKI?
From Reki
CLICK
Hmm.
I am a single bullet
WOULD NOT EXPECT THAT...
THAT ROBOTIC GIRL BROUGHT THESE?
CLICK
1P 4 — 4 CLICK

YESTERDAY, I HEARD FROM THE DOCTOR...
THAT THE SCAR FROM HER WOUND WILL NEVER HEAL.
IT'LL BE THERE FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE
RUSTLE
AH--
WAIT!
JUST A MINUTE!
ARIA
JUMP

That was fast...
SERIOUS
CHK
CHK
CLACK
YOU CAN COME IN NOW.
YOU CAME TO CHECK ON ME?
GLARE
IT'S GOING TO LEAVE A SCAR, RIGHT?
NO... WELL...
WHAT ABOUT IT? QUIT STARING.
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE I'M WOUND-ED.
THIS IS JUST A SCRATCH. THE DOCTORS ARE OVER-REACTING.
YOU ARE WOUNDED.
THE INJURY ON YOUR HEAD--
CLACK
SO IT SHOULDN'T BOTHER YOU.
THERE, DONE WITH MAINTE-NANCE.
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.
SO WHAT?

THE BUTEI CHARTER?
DON'T FOLLOW THAT THING TO THE LETTER! THAT'S STUPID!
ARE YOU CALLING ME STUPID?
THE BUTEI CHARTER, ARTICLE ONE: "TRUST IN YOUR ALLIES, AND ALWAYS LEND THEM YOUR AID."
I DID MY DUTY. NOTHING MORE.
IT'S NOT AS IF I DID IT FOR YOU.
...
BUT... YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT WAS STUPID OF ME TO SAVE SOMEONE STUPID LIKE YOU.
RUSTLE

JOLT
FWAP
SHAAAA
GULP
...PEACH BUNS?
GLANCE
TAKE THEM.
I GOT FIVE. THAT WAS ALL THEY HAD.
THEY'RE YOUR FAVORITE, RIGHT?
I FEEL LIKE I'M FEEDING A WOUNDED ANIMAL...
NOM
SHUSH!
I CAN DO AS I PLEASE.
SLOW DOWN.
THOSE BUNS AREN'T GOING ANYWHERE.
MUNCH
NOTH-ING.
THE HOTEL'S GUEST RECORD WAS ALTERED REMOTELY.
FWUMP
FINE. YOU CAN LISTEN WHILE YOU EAT.
THEY FOUND THE HOTEL ROOM THE CULPRIT WAS USING.
WHAT DID THEIR RECORDS SAY?
RUSTLE

THAT'S NO SURPRISE.
THE BUTEI KILLER IS SLY LIKE NO OTHER.
THE BUTEI KILLER, HUH...
RIKO MINE LEAD A GROUP OF INQUESTA AND RAPIERS IN SEARCHING THE ROOM.
BUT THEY DIDN'T FIND ANYTHING THAT COULD LEAD US TO THE CULPRIT.
I THOUGHT THE CULPRIT BEHIND MY BIKE'S HIJACKING AND THE BUS WAS A COPYCAT.
SINCE THE BUTEI KILLER WAS ALREADY CAUGHT.
I *TOLD* YOU, THEY GOT THE WRONG PERSON!
...
FWAP
ANYWAY... THE REPORT ON MY BIKE'S HIJACKING IS IN THERE, TOO.
BUT IT'S THE SAME-- BASICALLY, WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.
LICK
USELESS.
READING A REPORT LIKE THAT IS A WASTE OF TIME.
IF THAT'S REALLY WHAT YOU THINK, YOU CAN TOSS IT IN THE TRASH.

MAYBE THEY DIDN'T FIND ANY CLUES, BUT THEY DID PUT THEIR ALL INTO THE INVESTIGATION.
SHE REALLY THREW IT AWAY...
HMPH
GET OUT.
IT'S OVER, ISN'T IT?
IT'S OVER. YOU FULFILLED YOUR PROMISE.
THE FIRST CASE AFTER YOU CAME BACK TO ASSAULT.
?
WHOOSH
WHUD
SHOULD I APOLOGIZE, THEN?
OR MAYBE YOU'LL BE SATISFIED IF I PAY YOU?
I WANT YOU TO GO HOME.
...ARE YOU TRYING TO PISS ME OFF, ARIA?
LET ME BE.
GOOD-BYE.
YOU CAN GO BACK TO INQUESTA NOW.
YOU REALLY ARE SELFISH.
YOU FORCE ME BACK INTO ASSAULT, BUT NOW YOU'RE DONE WITH ME, JUST LIKE THAT?
...WHAT?
TCH

I HAD...
HIGH HOPES FOR YOU.
FINE. I'M LEAVING.
WHAT ...
...YOU'D SHOW ME YOUR TRUE CAPABILITIES!
GWSH
I THOUGHT THAT IF YOU WERE ON THE SCENE OF A CASE...
...DAMMIT.
I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF ABILITY!
YOU RAISED THOSE EXPECTATIONS ON YOUR OWN!
PWAP

...WHY?
BESIDES, I'M QUITTING THIS BUTEI CRAP!
WHY ARE YOU SO SELF-ISH?!
OF COURSE I'M SELFISH!
I DON'T HAVE ANY TIME!
WHY CAN'T I KEEP MY COOL AROUND HER?
WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?!
IT'S NOT LIKE ME--
YOU'RE A BUTEI, FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF!
WHAT-EVER MADE YOU WANT TO QUIT BEING A BUTEI ...
SWSH
COMPARED TO MY SITUATION ...
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING!

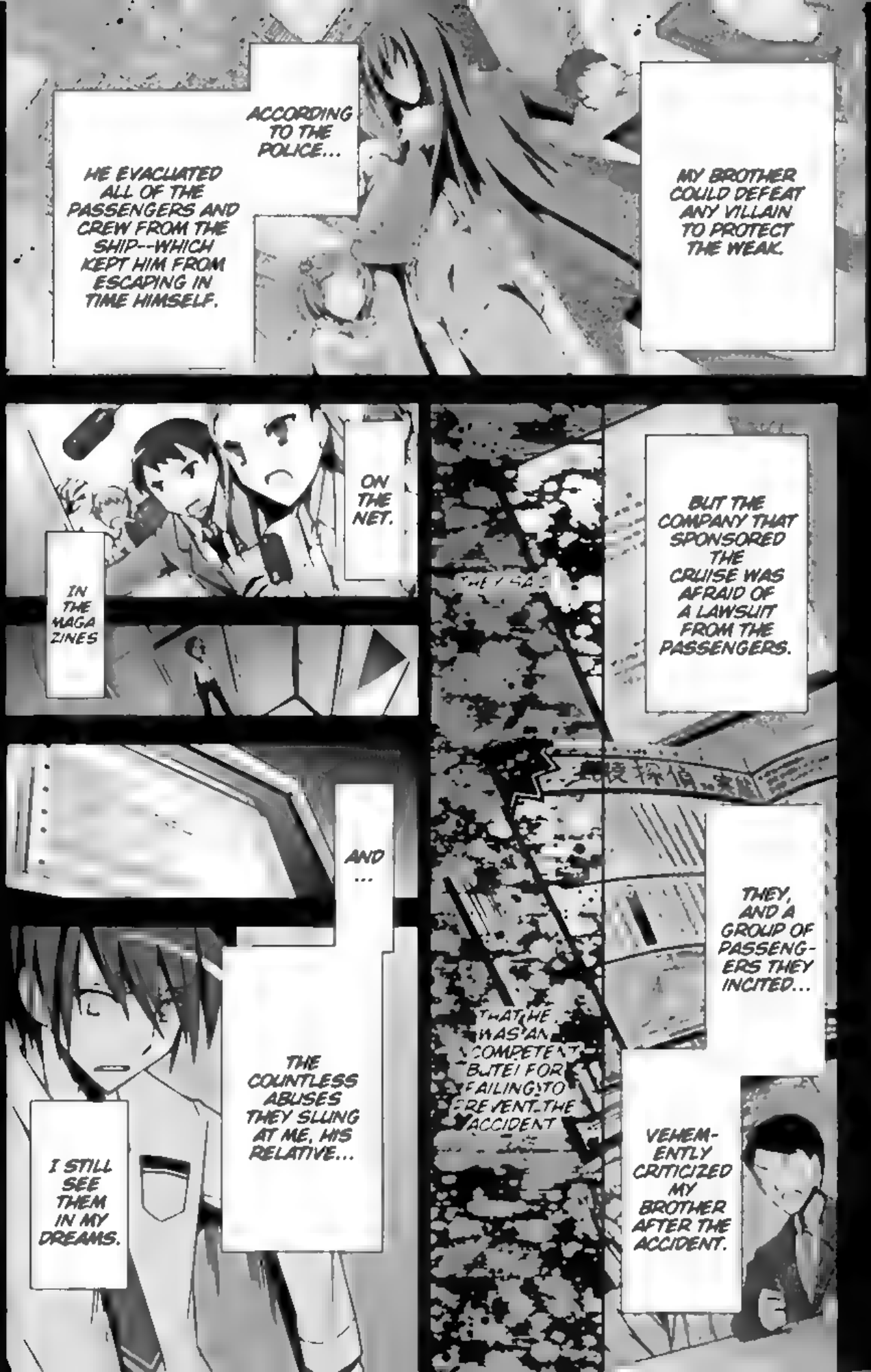
SWWSH
IT'S NOTHING?
FWAP

WH...
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU...
REALLY DOES RUN IN YOUR FAMILY!
BEING A HERO...

A FACE I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE.
RIGHT NOW...
I MUST BE MAKING AN AWFUL FACE.
FWUMP
...THAT'S RIGHT.

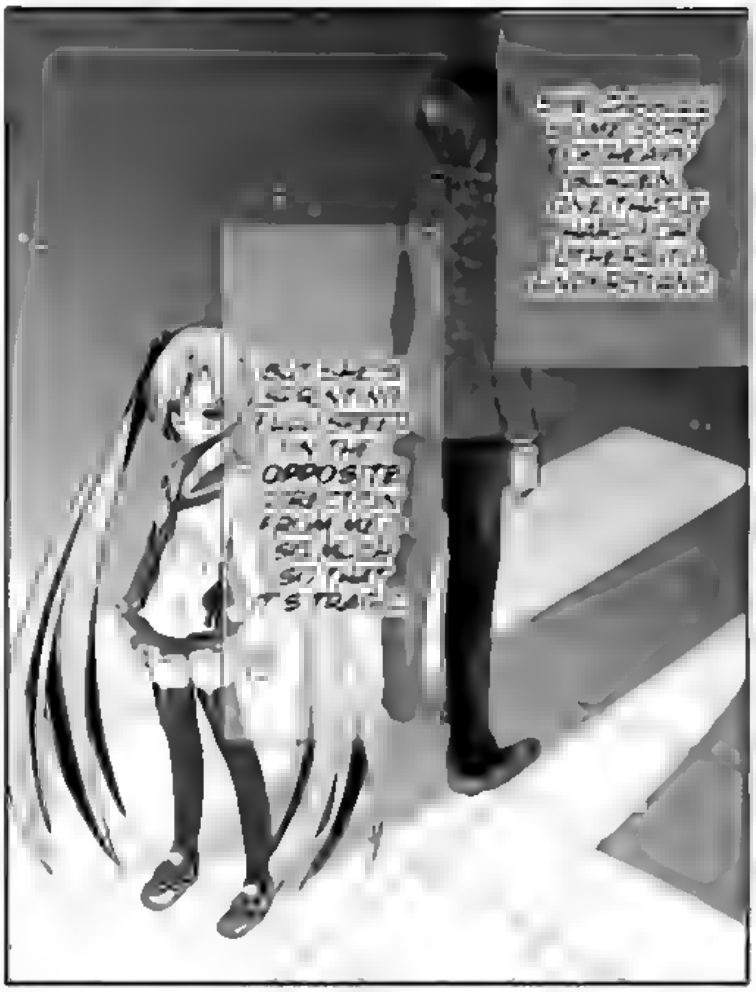
THEY'VE USED HYSTERIA MODE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, FIGHTING FOR THE WEAK.
THEIR EXACT PROFESSIONS HAVE CHANGED WITH TIME, BUT...
MY FAMILY, THE TOHYAMAS, HAVE BEEN HEROES FOR GENERATIONS.
...TO APPLY TO BUTEI HIGH.
THAT'S WHY, I DIDN'T HESITATE ...
MY DAD WAS AN ARMED PROSECUTOR. HE DIED EARLIER THAN I CAN REMEMBER, IN THE LINE OF DUTY.
BUT I BELIEVED THAT ONE DAY, I COULD HANDLE HYSTERIA MODE AS DEFTLY AS MY FATHER AND BROTHER BEFORE ME.
MAYBE IT HAD BEEN A SOURCE OF TROUBLE FOR ME IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ...
MY BROTHER WAS A BUTEI--
AND THE HERO I ASPIRED TO BE.
UP UNTIL THAT POINT, I HAD HIGH HOPES.
BUT ...

LAST WINTER, MY LIFE WAS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN...
BY THE URAGA SHIPWRECK.
THE EMBELLIR, A JAPANESE CRUISE SHIP, WAS SUNK.
AND ONE OF THE PEOPLE ON BOARD WENT MISSING.
THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS TRAGIC ACCIDENT ...
...WAS CLOSED, EVEN THOUGH THEIR BODY WAS NEVER FOUND.
THE CASUALTY WAS A BUTEI WHO HAPPENED TO BE ON THE SHIP--
KIN-ICHI TOH-YAMA.
HE WAS--MY BROTHER.


ACCORDING TO THE POLICE...
HE EVACUATED ALL OF THE PASSENGERS AND CREW FROM THE SHIP--WHICH KEPT HIM FROM ESCAPING IN TIME HIMSELF.
MY BROTHER COULD DEFEAT ANY VILLAIN TO PROTECT THE WEAK.
ON THE NET.
IN THE MAGAZINES
BUT THE COMPANY THAT SPONSORED THE CRUISE WAS AFRAID OF A LAWSUIT FROM THE PASSENGERS.
AND ...
THEY, AND A GROUP OF PASSENGERS THEY INCITED...
THAT HE WAS AN INCOMPETENT BUTEI FOR FAILING TO PREVENT THE ACCIDENT
VEHEMENTLY CRITICIZED MY BROTHER AFTER THE ACCIDENT.
THE COUNTLESS ABUSES THEY SLUNG AT ME, HIS RELATIVE...
I STILL SEE THEM IN MY DREAMS.

WHY DID MY BROTHER DIE SAVING PEOPLE?
WHY, WAS HE TURNED INTO A SCAPEGOAT?
BECAUSE HE WAS A DAMN BUTEI!
BECAUSE OF HIS GENES. BECAUSE OF HYSTERIA MOCE
THE JOB GETS YOU NOTHING BUT GRIEF!
AND EVEN AFTER IT KILLS THEM, PEOPLE KEEP STONING THEIR CORPSES.
THEY FIGHT, AND FIGHT...
BUTEI ...
"HEROES" OF JUSTICE ...
THAT'S RIGHT

I'LL LIVE A PEACEFUL LIFE ON THE CARE-FREE SIDE OF SOCIETY
I'LL SAY AS MANY IRRESPONSIBLE THINGS AS I WANT
I'LL LIVE
THAT'S WHY I GAVE UP ON BECOMING SOMETHING SO RIDICULOUS
IT'S MY DECISION
THAT'S WHAT I'VE DECIDED
I'LL BE AN ORDINARY PERSON


IN THE
OPPOSITE

I SEE NOW
SHE REMINDS ME
OF ME

SHE'S FACING IT HEAD-ON.
NEXT YEAR I'M TRANSFERRING TO A NORMAL SCHOOL.
...
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?
THAT'S WHY...
I'M RUNNING AWAY.
...IN ANY CASE.
I'M NOT GOING TO BECOME A BUTEI.
I CAN'T STAY CALM...
I KNOW.
...I KNOW.
WHEN IT COMES TO ARIA.
THE ONE I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR...

IT...
AT NEVER YOU
IT'S FRIDAY BUT SO THIS WAY
AND NOW I CAN LEAD ASSAULT
ARIA WAS SAFE IN ME AND LET ME GO
THIS IS WHAT I WANTED ALONG
I LET HER SEE HOW UNFIT I AM

ALL I HAVE TO DO NOW IS RELAX IN INQUESTA UNTIL I TRANSFER TO A NORMAL SCHOOL NEXT YEAR.
I'LL WASH MY HANDS OF THE BUTEI WORLD AND BECOME AN ORDINARY ADULT.
SOUNDS GREAT, RIGHT?
CLICK
SO...
WHY ...
CLICK

Kinji Tohjohma
Beretta M92F "Kinji Model"
×
Butterfly Knife.

Aria the Scarlet Empire

TYPHOON #1 IS MOVING NORTH, AND AS OF YET SHOWS NO SIGN OF WEAKENING ...
EARLY NEXT WEEK, IT WILL BE CLOSE TO THE KANTOU REGION, AND MAY MOVE INLAND.

TV: THE WEATHER WILL DECLINE AFTER THE WEEKEND. WE RECOMMEND YOU DO LAUNDRY TODAY, BUT WATCH FOR SUDDEN SHOWERS.

BEGINNING MONDAY EVENING, EXPECT HEAVY RAIN AND WIND THROUGH TUESDAY.
THERE MAY ALSO BE TRAFFIC DELAYS.
ANYONE GOING OUTSIDE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE WEATHER MAY SUDDENLY CHANGE--
SIGN: DRY CLEANING
CLACK

10

弾・点と線

BULLET 10: POINTS AND LINES

SWISH
...
GLANCE
HER BANGS--
I DON'T EVEN NEED TO ASK.
SHE'S WEARING THEM LIKE THAT BECAUSE OF THE SCAR ON HER FOREHEAD.
ARIA...
CLOP

I KNOW ARIA'S FINICKY ABOUT HER APPEARANCE TO BEGIN WITH, BUT...
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER SO DOLLED UP.
... DOES SHE HAVE A DATE?
I've only seen her in her school uniform or combat gear.
THAT'S GOT TO BE IT.
...
ARIA'S BOY-FRIEND ...
WHAT'S HE LIKE?
FWAP
CLACK
CLACK
TMP?

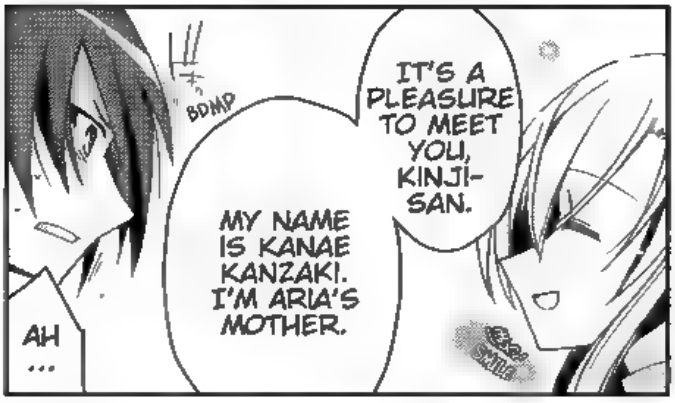
SIGN: SHINJUKU
新宿
しんじゅく
Nakano
...THIS IS AN ODD DIRECTION.
THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS AREA BUT OFFICE BUILDINGS.
THE SHIN-JUKU POLICE DE-PART-MENT ...
WHY IS SHE GOING THERE?
THAT'S...

What the heck...
SHE CAUGHT ME.
AH...
EEK
I SEE YOU TAILING ME.
IT'S SO OBVIOUS. IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU HAVE A "TAIL" STICKING OUT.
JUMP
UH, DIDN'T YOU KEEP TELLING ME...
TO INVESTIGATE FOR MYSELF INSTEAD OF ASKING QUESTIONS?
WAIT.
IF YOU NOTICED ME, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING SOONER?
I WASN'T SURE ...
IF I SHOULD TELL YOU THIS OR NOT.
BECAUSE YOU'RE ONE OF THE BUTEI KILLER'S VICTIMS.
...BUT WE'RE ALREADY HERE.
I SUPPOSE YOU'D FOLLOW ME EVEN IF I SENT YOU AWAY.
CLOP

6
OH, MY...
KOMK
Ah
THIS WOMAN...
ARIA.
IS THIS YOUR BOYFRIEND?
IT'S ARIA'S MOTHER.
She's young...
N--
NO, MAMA!

SHE LOOKS MORE LIKE AN OLDER SISTER THAN A MOTHER.
OH, THEN HE'S A CLOSE FRIEND, PERHAPS?
HEEHEE
OH, ARIA, AND YOU USED TO BE SO AWFUL AT MAKING FRIENDS...

NO! THIS IS KINJI TOHYAMA.
HE'S A STUDENT AT BUTEI HIGH--
You don't have to deny it that much.
WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT.
NO WAY.

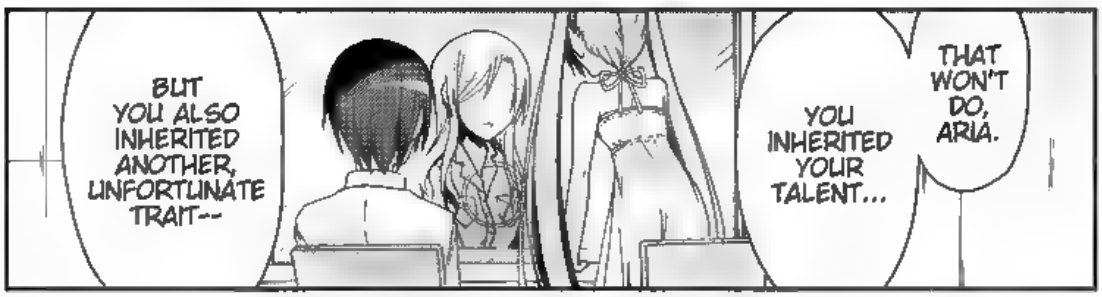

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, KINJI-SAN.
BOWP
MY NAME IS KANAE KANZAKI. I'M ARIA'S MOTHER.
AH...
Cheek Smile

MAMA.
WE ONLY HAVE THREE MINUTES TO TALK, SO I'LL BE BRIEF--
CLACK

THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER MY DAUGHTER.
...CRAP.
I'M WEAK AGAINST THIS KIND OF WOMAN...
N--
NOT AT ALL...
TCH

THIS IDIOT WAS THE BUTEI KILLER'S THIRD VICTIM.
A BOMB WAS STRAPPED TO HIS BICYCLE LAST WEEK AT BUTEI HIGH.
I SEE...
AND THEN, TWO DAYS AGO, THERE WAS A BUS HIJACKING.
THE BUTEI KILLER'S SUDDENLY BECOME MORE ACTIVE.
THEY'LL EXPOSE THEMSELVES SOON.
SO FIRST, I'LL CAPTURE THE BUTEI KILLER.
IF WE CAN PROVE YOUR INNOCENCE IN THE BUTEI KILLINGS, YOUR SENTENCE WILL BE REDUCED FROM 864 YEARS TO 742 YEARS.
I'LL DEAL WITH THE REST BEFORE YOUR CASE MAKES IT TO THE SUPREME COURT.
AND THEN--
I'LL MAKE SURE ALL OF THE SCUMBAGS AT I.U. WHO SCAPEGOATED YOU ARE THROWN IN HERE TO ROT!

I... NO. I JUST CAN'T FIND ONE.
NO ONE CAN KEEP UP WITH ME...
ARIA... THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE.
BUT IT'S STILL TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO GO UP AGAINST I.U.
DID YOU FIND A PARTNER?

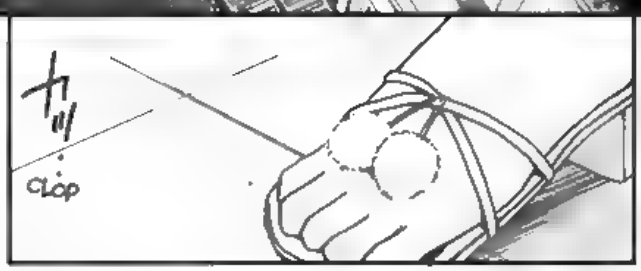

BUT YOU ALSO INHERITED ANOTHER, UNFORTUNATE TRAIT--
YOU INHERITED YOUR TALENT...
THAT WON'T DO, ARIA.

YOU'RE ONLY HALF AS STRONG AS YOU COULD BE BECAUSE OF IT.
YOU'RE TOO PROUD. YOU'RE CHILDISH. THAT PERSONALITY RUNS IN THE FAMILY.

...IN LONDON, THEY TOLD ME THAT SO MANY TIMES I THOUGHT MY EARS WOULD FALL OFF.
CLENCH
THEY EVEN CALLED ME DEFECTIVE BECAUSE I COULDN'T FIND A PARTNER.
BUT...
SWISH
CHILDREN WHO RUN TOO QUICKLY STUMBLE AND FALL.
...WALK SLOWLY IN LIFE.
KAN-ZAKI.
TIME'S UP.
YOU NEED A PARTNER WHO UNDERSTANDS YOU. ONE WHO CAN BE AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN YOU AND THE WORLD.
A FITTING PARTNER WOULD HELP YOU DRAW OUT YOUR SKILL EXPONENTIALLY.
YOUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER AND YOUR GRANDMOTHER BOTH FOUND EXCELLENT PARTNERS.

MAMA, WAIT!
I'LL CATCH ALL THE CULPRITS BEFORE THE TRIAL, I PROMISE!
DON'T RUSH YOURSELF, ARIA.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU. DON'T RUN INTO TROUBLE ALL ALONE.
NO! I WANT TO SAVE YOU AS SOON AS I CAN!
ARIA, MY LAWYER IS DELAYING THE TRIAL AS MUCH AS HE CAN.
SO STAY CALM.
YOU MUST FIND A PARTNER FIRST.
THAT SCAR ON YOUR FOREHEAD ...
GASP
IT'S PROOF THAT YOU'VE STUMBLED INTO TERRITORY TOO DANGEROUS TO DEAL WITH ALONE.
N...

TIME'S UP!
GRAB
AH...
ARIA!
NO! NO, NO, NO!
CLACK
DON'T HURT HER!
BAM
ARIA...
STOP IT!
MAMA...
MAMA!
CLASH


CLOP

THERE WAS NO REASON FOR THEM TO TREAT HER LIKE THAT.
...I'LL SUE THEM.

I'LL DO IT. I'LL SUE.

KCHK

PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
I'M NOT ...
ARIA ...
I'M NOT CRYING.
CRY-ING ...
HEY... ARIA.
I...
WAAAAHHH

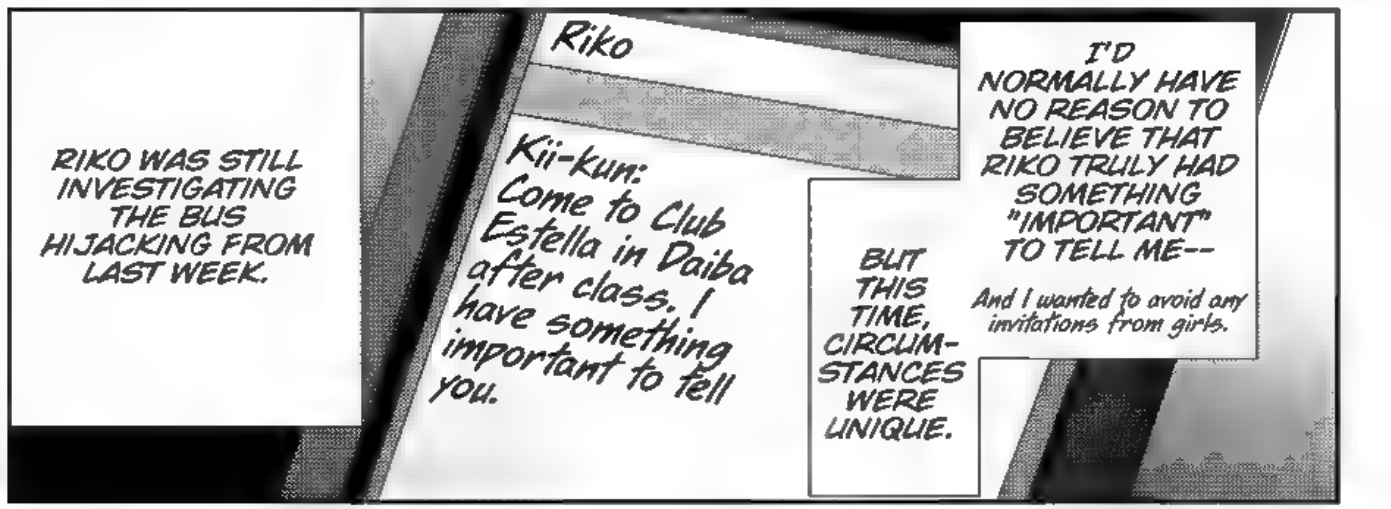
PLIP
PLIP
MAMA...
MA-MAAA...
AAAAHHH
WAAAAHHH

ARIA BELIEVES THAT IT'S ALL FALSE...
AND...
ARIA'S MOTHER WAS ACCUSED OF MORE THAN JUST THE BUTEI KILLINGS.
AND IS TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE PREVIOUS JUDGMENTS BY FINDING THE TRUE CULPRITS HERSELF BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT HEARING.

*A SYSTEM IN WHICH, SHOULD THERE BE SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE, A CASE MAY BE EXPEDITED TO THE SUPREME COURT TO PREVENT HEARINGS FROM DRAGGING ON.

AS FOR THIS "PARTNER" TALK...
THE "H" FAMILY HAS A TRADITION OF FINDING A TALENTED PARTNER TO HELP THEM HONE THEIR ABILITIES.
BUT ARIA STILL HASN'T FOUND A PARTNER.
...NO SURPRISE THERE.
IT'D BE HARD TO FIND AN EQUAL TO A PRODIGY LIKE HER.
ARIA MIGHT HAVE REPLACED THE WORD "PARTNER" WITH "SLAVE"...
TO LOWER THE HURDLE FOR HER POTENTIAL PARTNER, IF ONLY IN NAME.
THAT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR HER, PSYCHO-LOGICALLY--
FLIP
...
TAP
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

RIKO...
MUST ALREADY BE HERE.
club ESTELLA
...IS THIS IT?
SWSH
CLANG
club ESTELLA


RIKO WAS STILL INVESTIGATING THE BUS HIJACKING FROM LAST WEEK.
Riko
Kii-kun: Come to Club Estella in Daiba after class. I have something important to tell you.
BUT THIS TIME, CIRCUM-STANCES WERE UNIQUE.
I'D NORMALLY HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT RIKO TRULY HAD SOMETHING "IMPORTANT" TO TELL ME--
And I wanted to avoid any invitations from girls.

SHE WAS BRAGGING ABOUT HOW SHE PAID MUTOU TO MODIFY IT TO RUN 150 KM / H.
COME TO THINK OF IT, RIKO'S MODIFIED VESPA...
HE SHOULD BE MORE PICKY ABOUT HIS JOBS.

AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT HOW ARIA WASN'T IN CLASS TODAY.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE WE PARTED WAYS IN SHINJUKU...

TMP
TMP
TMP
KII-KUUUN!
OH!
HEE HEE!
I WAS WORKING ON MY DATE CLOTHES.
Yeesh.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SKIPPING SCHOOL TO BE HERE?
I CAN'T STAND YOU UP WHEN WE'RE NOT IN THAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP.
I'M SOOO HAPPY YOU CAME!
OH, BUT KII-KUN, YOU TOOK SO LONG TO GET HERE THAT I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU'D STOOD ME UP!
I shouldn't have come.
DEMURO
WHAT THE HECK?
CLING
THIS IS THE RIKO ROUTE, YOU KNOW?
OHHH, YOU'RE SO COOOLD!

I can hear you, you know.
YOU OVER THERE--
THAT'S THREE SEPARATE MIS-UNDER-STAND-INGS!
PSST
PSST
PSST
I DON'T THINK SO. THERE'S HOTOGI-SAN, TOO.
SO LIKE, DOES HE HAVE A THING FOR SHORT GIRLS?
PSST
PSST
OH MY GOD, IT'S KINJI!
NOW HE'S GOING OUT WITH RIKO?
PSST
SINCE I ASKED YOU OUT HERE...
IT'S AAALL MY TREAT!
POOM
KREE
CLACK
STAB
YOU TWO HAVE TO GET ALONG!
WHY SHOULD WE?
IT IS MY BUSINESS!
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
AHH
SAY, KII-KUN ...
DID YOU HAVE A FIGHT WITH ARIA?

SHE LOOKS SERIOUS.
NO WAY. IDIOT.
SAY "AH," KII-KLIN!
SMIRK
BECAUSE IT'S MORE FUN FOR ME THAT WAY.
THE "BITE! KILLER"
...
UGH
I'LL TELL YOU IF YOU SAY "AH" FIRST!
DO YOU KNOW SOME-THING?
FNAF

HEE HEE.
YOU KNOW ACCORDING TO THE POLICE REPORTS...
THE BUTEI KILLER MIGHT HAVE HIJACKED MORE THAN JUST A MOTORCYCLE AND CAR.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?
GULP
THERE WAS ANOTHER POSSIBLE CASE.
THEY CALLED IT AN ACCIDENT, BUT IT CAOULD HAVE BEEN THE BUTEI KILLER'S DOING.
THERE WAS A COVER-UP SO NOBODY KNOWS.
CRINKLE
REALLY?
SO ANYWAY, I FOUND...
CRINKLE
A NAME THAT STOOD OUT.

PAPER 12/24/2008
JIRAGA SHIPWRECK CASUALTY
BUTEI KOICHI TOHYAMA (19)
WOULD YOU CALL THIS--A SEA HIJACKING?
--THE BUTEI KILLER
THIS NAME--IS HE YOUR BROTHER?
...!
BADUMP
--WHAT THE HELL?
WHO ARE YOU?
WHY WOULD YOU...
WHY WOULD YOU GO AFTER MY BROTHER?
WHY WOULD YOU GO AFTER ME?

...I LIKE IT.
WSH
I LIKE IT, KINJI.
THAT GAZE OF YOURS.
IT MAKES ME ALL TREMBLY.
Je t'aime a croquer.
<I JUST WANNA EAT YOU UP.>
WHEN I LOOKED INTO YOUR EYES, DURING OUR ENTRANCE EXAM--
I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU AT FIRST SIGHT.
...RIKO?

SHE MUST BE TALKING ABOUT THAT--
KINJI!
DURING THE EXAM WHILE I WAS IN HYSTERIA MODE
TAKING HER DOWN WAS AS EASY AS TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY.
FWUMP
THUD

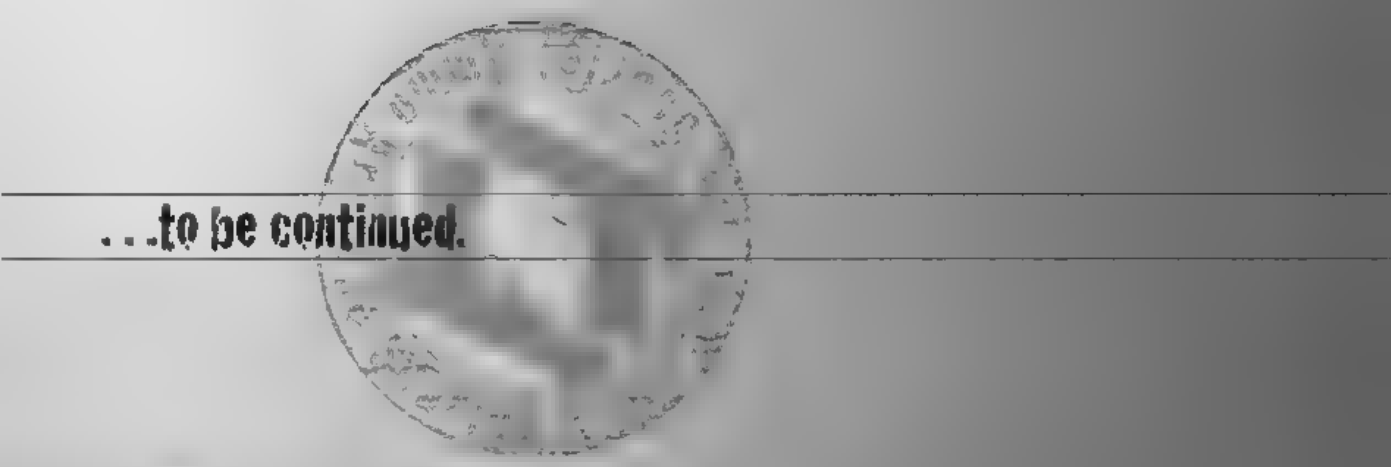
HEY, YOU KNOW WHAT?
IF THIS WERE A DATING SIM THIS SCENE WOULD GET A SINJI ILLUSTRATION.
SINJI...?
IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO BE.
YOU ARE SO GOOD TO ME WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE SINJI.
YOU CAN KEEP GOING LIKE IN THOSE GAMES.
THIS PROVOCATIVE
WAS SHE ALWAYS...?
HEY SINJI...
WE'RE ALL ALONE TOGETHER IN THIS SUPER EXPENSIVE ROOM...
...END

BDMP
BDMP
BDMP
BDMP
BDMP
SHIRA-YUKI'S AT A TRAINING CAMP.
AND ARIA'S ON HER WAY BACK TO ENGLAND.
NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN THIS ROOM, KINJI...
THIS IS BAD.
I HEARD THAT SHE'S LEAVING ON A CHARTER PLANE TONIGHT, AT 7 PM...
HMM... I BET SHE'S ALREADY AT HANEDA AIRPORT.
I'M GOING TO... CHANGE...
SO...
WON'T YOU HAVE FUN WITH ME?
INTO... HYSTERIA MODE...!
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH
FSSH

I HAVE TO GO!
SORRY FOR THIS!
FLICK
MEW?!
GRAB
BADUMP
...!!
...NOT GOOD!

DRUMP
IT'S ABOUT TIME
FOR LITTLE CHILDREN TO GO HOME TO BED.
IF MY GUESS IS CORRECT

THEN SOON, ARIA WILL MEET...
SHE'LL RUN INTO...
THE BUTEI KILLER ...!!


. . .to be continued.

MEANWHILE, SHIRAYUKI-SAN...
CRACK
Gasp!
O-oh no, my tea cup!
!!
CRACK
The mask broke?!
HISSSS
Eek!
H-how did a black cat get in here?!
SWSH
SWSH
Hyaaaah! Away with you, evil spirits! Away!! Awaaay!!!
H-has something happened to Kinji?!
BADUMP
SWSH

2巻です。
Here's volume 2.
Thank you for reading, whether you started on this volume or the first one. It's been slow-paced, but we're moving forward little by little!
Thanx
Eimy Yashino
G. Naniki
Heartbreak
Kei Kawai
Kirie Kajoh
Chiaki Tajima
Emi Yuji
Takahiro Michiba
Iwasi Tokyo
etc.
また3巻にてお会いしましょう!
See you in volume 3!

TITLE: PEACH BUN LEGEND PRETTY ARIA
SUBTITLE: ORIGINS

MFコミックス
アライブシリーズ

WE NEED YOUR POWER... YOUR OVER-FLOWING LOVE FOR PEACH BUNS!
SWOOSH
SPARKLE
PEACH BUNS NOW FACE AN UNKNOWN EVIL...
ARIA H. KANZAKI--NO. PRETTY ARIA. I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
FLOAT
YOU ARE THE CHOSEN PEACH BUN WARR-IOR.
L-LEOPEACH, WHAT IS THIS...?!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
THAT GARB IS YOUR BATTLE COSTUME--IT SUITS YOU WELL.
I-IN-CREDIBLE, LEOPEACH!
SWSH
IN THE NAME OF PEACH BUNS!
I'LL DO MY BEST!
GWSH
AND SO, PRETTY ARIA WAS BORN.
FIGHT, ARIA! THE FUTURE OF PEACH BUNS RESTS IN YOUR HANDS! (PROBABLY.)
A new hole?!
I'll blow a new hole in 'em!
All right! Let's go!

volume 2 ARIA The Scarlet Ammo

Digital Manga Guild presents
Author: Chugaku Akamatsu
Art by: Koyoka Yoshino
Character Design by: Kobuichi

Bullet 6 Aria H. Kanzaki 005
Bullet 7 Assault 039
Bullet 8 The Butei Killer 069
Bullet 9 Beneath the Bangs 099
Bullet 10 Points and Lines 131

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volume 2 ARIA The Scarlet Ammo

Gun-toting, sword-wielding, pig-tail haired, Butei (an armed detective) extraordinaire Aria H. Kanzaki, has just proclaimed that the hapless Kinji Tohyama is to be her slave. Kinji denies this vehement request, but agrees to accompany her on a single case regardless of how big or small it is. Unfortunately, that one case turns out to be much bigger than anything they could've ever imagined. Now, Kinji and Aria must face their own troubled pasts and the painful reasoning behind their individual life choices. Action, mystery, and drama combine in this exhilarating, and poignant, volume of Aria: The Scarlet Ammo!

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